

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England	Feb. 10	Hankow	Mar. 18
San Francisco	23	Yokohama	15
Hongkong	Mar. 18	Nagasaki	20
Tientsin	20	Foochow	14

Shanghai mail advices of 4th February were received in London on the 13th March.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1893.

SUPPLEMENTARY to the Chinese Treaty Ports, are the two ports in the South, opened to enable the Chinese government to keep a better watch on the opium smugglers, the two ports on the Tongking frontier, through which the French trade with South China goes, and the three Korean ports. The comparative revenue at these seven ports in the last quarter of 1892 and 1891 was as follows:—

	1892.	1891.
China:—	Hk. Tls.	Hk. Tls.
Kowloon	113,194	128,455
Lappa	87,186	104,830
Lungchow	418	432
Mengtze	20,260	18,341

Total Tls. 221,058 Tls. 252,058

Corea:—	\$	\$
Jenchuan	67,770	71,674
Fusan	48,445	61,697
Yuensan	20,053	17,116

Total \$136,268 \$150,487

It will be seen that of the four extra Chinese ports only Mengtze, and of the Korean ports only Yuensan, did better in 1892 than in 1891. At Kowloon there was an improvement in the duty on general cargo, both inwards and outwards, and in the Chingfei tax inwards; opium duty and likin, and likin on general cargo both inwards and outwards, showed a considerable decline; and it must be remembered that 1891 showed a very heavy decline on 1890. The total junk traffic inwards at the four stations comprised under Kowloon in the quarter was 7,794 junks, and outwards 7,857 junks, while there were 2,585 steam launches each way. From Hongkong to Macao there were 201 junks, and from Macao to Hongkong 205, while there was one junk from Annam to Hongkong. There was a falling-off in the import of opium, and a very large falling-off in the import of cottons and woollens, the figures for Indian yarn being 2,170 piculs in 1890, 9,970 in 1891, and only 133 in 1892. Metals, however, were well maintained, iron of all kinds showing an improvement. Foreign and native sundries were freely imported, with a considerable increase in kerosene oil and rice. It would take too long to go through the detailed table of exports, in which the business was on the whole well up to the average. There is no

use for transit passes at Kowloon. The falling-off in the revenue at Lappa (Macao) was under every heading, half of the deficiency being under opium duty and likin. At the two stations that are under the port of Lappa 2,351 junks passed inwards and 2,323 outwards, while at Malowchow 186 passed to, and 189 from, Hongkong. The imports of cottons, woollens, and metals were well up to the average, with the exception of Indian yarn, of which 27,876 piculs were imported in 1890, 23,486 in 1891, and only 14,808 in 1892. There was a decline too in Indian raw cotton, but other foreign sundries were fairly maintained, kerosene oil showing a considerable increase. Native sundries were freely taken. Exports were on the whole perhaps not so large as in 1891, but there are no important discrepancies to notice. Transit passes are not used at Lappa.

Lungchow continues to advance very slowly, and in 1892 the number of junks reported during the quarter was only 182, against 198 in 1891. Both imports and exports showed a falling-off, but for the first time, apparently, transit passes were used, 3,40 piculs of aniseed oil being conveyed to the interior thereunder. At Mengtze, however, trade continued to improve. Of native craft 834 were entered and 816 cleared during the quarter, against 679 and 703 respectively in 1891; while 28,790 pack animals, mules and ponies, carrying on the average 120 catties per head, reported at the Custom House with import, export, and transit merchandise, against 20,267 in 1891. There was a heavy decline in the import of grey shirtings, but other cottons were in fair demand, Indian yarn rising from pls. 3,747 in 1891 to pls. 7,470 in 1892. The import of woollens was restricted to 48 pieces of camlets. There was a fair import of foreign sundries, with a large increase in matches, and the trade in native sundries continues to grow. Exports were fairly well maintained, the figures for tin, the most valuable staple of the trade, being 4,207 piculs in 1889, 5,076 in 1890, 8,617 in 1891, and 10,907 in 1892. Of the imports into Mengtze the largest portion is conveyed to the interior under transit passes, of which 4,405 were issued in 1892, against 3,783 in 1891, 2,546 in 1890, and 1,423 in 1889. There was no trade in foreign opium at Mengtze, but an export of Pls. 51.75 of the native drug.

This closes our notice of the returns of the foreign trade of China for the last quarter of 1892.

Summary of News.

The N.D.L. str. *Sachsen*, with Berlin dates to 13th February, arrived here on the 19th inst.

The American mail of 23rd February, ex s.s. *Belgie*, arrived here on the 21st inst., by the N.Y.K. str. *Saikio Maru*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the P. & O. str. *Carthage*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA
DAILY NEWS."

THE HEALTH OF LORD SALISBURY.

London, 16th March.

Lord Salisbury is suffering from severe influenza.

THE HONGKONG CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. Buxton, Parliamentary Secretary for the Colonies, said that while Lord Ripon cannot assent to a reduction in the salaries of the holders of office at Hongkong, he was taking measures to reduce the very high outlay and was considering the desirability of a special enquiry.

THE PAYMENT OF MEMBERS.

London, 17th March.

Mr. Gladstone said that the Government was willing to promote a measure for the Payment of Members, but that to move the Bill was impossible this Session.

OBITUARY.

M. Jules Ferry is dead.

A WEIGHTY DECLARATION.

London, 19th March.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. William O'Brien stated that Ireland would accept Mr. Gladstone's Bill for Home Rule as a final settlement, but that the financial clauses needed amendment.

A STATESMAN'S FUNERAL.

The funeral of M. Ferry will take place on Wednesday at the expense of the State.

THE HEALTH OF LORD SALISBURY.

Lord Salisbury is better, but requires great care.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S PET PROJECT.

The Committee of the Reichstag has rejected on the second reading the whole of the Army Bill with all the different party amendments.

THE WEAKNESS OF SILVER.

London, 20th March.

Quotations for silver and silver stocks are depressed owing to the proposed Indian Loan.

THE GOVERNMENT AND UGANDA.

Mr. Gladstone stated that Sir Gerald Portal was instructed to enquire as to the best method of treating Uganda, and that neither occupation nor annexation was meditated.

An amendment by Mr. Labouchere for omitting the Uganda credit was rejected.

THE HEALTH OF LORD SALISBURY.

London, 21st March.

Lord Salisbury is progressing well. THE GOVERNMENT AND UGANDA.

In the debate on Supply Sir Edward Grey, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, replying to questions said that the Government was determined to discharge its obligations with regard to Uganda and would not incur the responsibility of withdrawal, without being informed what would be the effect.

THE PANAMA CANAL TRIAL.

The result of the Panama trial is that M. Chas. Lesseps has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment, M. Blondin to two years' and M. Baihaut to 5 years' and a fine of 750,000 francs.

MR. DE COBAIN.

Mr. De Cobain has been sentenced at Belfast to one year's hard labour for unnatural offences.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

London, 22nd March.

Oxford won by a length.

ACCIDENT TO AN IRONCLAD.

H.M.S. *Undaunted*, Captain Lord Chas. Beresford, struck a rock on leaving Alexandria, but was floated and returned to port for repairs.

PARISH COUNCILS.

The Rt. Hon. Henry H. Fowler, the President of the Local Government Board, has introduced a Bill creating a Parish Council for every parish with a population of three hundred, and giving large powers to these Councils.

READING FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1893.

	Fahr.	Thermometer.	Min.	Max.	Rainfall
					in inches.
March 17		41° 0	...	59° 2	.....
" 18		46° 2	...	54° 5	0.55
" 19		48° 0	...	49° 0	0.62
" 20		43° 0	...	53° 2	0.02
" 21		42° 0	...	51° 5	.....
" 22		45° 5	...	51° 8	.....
" 23		42° 0	...	51° 0	0.12

1892.

	Fahr.	Thermometer.	Min.	Max.	Rainfall
					in inches.
March 17		38° 3	...	46° 1	0.24
" 18		39° 0	...	43° 5	0.11
" 19		34° 8	...	45° 7	.....
" 20		34° 1	...	47° 0	.....
" 21		36° 8	...	47° 0	0.40
" 22		45° 0	...	47° 1	0.55
" 23		45° 0	...	52° 2	0.07

Sicawei weather report, 17th March, 10 a.m.: Yesterday there was a centre of very low pressure near Tokio (at 2 p.m., 29.174 in.). Upon the S. coast of China the barometer rose gently with moderate N.E. monsoon. This morning the barometer continued to fall slowly at Shanghai. There apparently is a centre of depression to the W. travelling towards the coast. Probably light S.E. breezes upon the S. coast.—18th March, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer rose fairly rapidly over Japan, and fell over the whole coast of China, where very variable winds prevailed. This morning the barometer continued to fall. Rainy weather at Shanghai probable; upon the S. coast light S.E. breezes.—Sunday, 19th March, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer continued to fall at Shanghai and the S. stations, while it began to rise again at Tientsin. Light, or at the most moderate, and very variable breezes prevailed over all the coast. This morning the barometer is beginning to rise again somewhat rapidly at Shanghai. Strong breeze from the N. probable over the N. coast; over the S. coast

light and variable breezes will continue probably until this evening, and will be followed by strong N.E. breezes.—20th March, 10 a.m.: The centre of depression passed on Saturday evening S. of Shanghai, and yesterday evening was to the S. of Japan. The barometer rose very slightly yesterday evening in the Formosa Channel. This morning high barometer still prevailed in the N. and N.E. At Shanghai the barometer, at moderate height, continued to rise. The weather will probably remain overcast, without rain; upon the S. coast strong N.E. breezes, which will probably moderate this evening; upon the N. coast more moderate breeze from the N. and N.E.—21st March, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the centre of depression to the S. of Japan travelled eastwards; barometric pressure fairly high over the N. of China. Over the S. coast the barometer rose rapidly with good N.E. breezes. This morning, the barometer, at normal height, remained nearly stationary at Shanghai. Upon the S. coast moderate N.E. breezes; at Shanghai fine but cloudy weather.—22nd March, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer rose rapidly over S. W. Japan; it continued to rise over the S. coast of China, with moderate breezes; it remained fairly high and steady at Tientsin, but commenced to fall at Shanghai. This morning the barometer, already a little below normal height, was still falling. Rainy weather probable; upon the S. coast moderate S.E. or E. breezes.—23rd March, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer fell upon the S. coast, with light breezes from the E. or N.E. Upon the N. coast it remained nearly stationary, at average height; light breezes prevailed generally upon this part of the coast. This morning pressure was low at Vladivostok and normal at Shanghai. Upon the S. coast light N.E. breezes. Weather uncertain at Shanghai.

It is understood that Sir Robert Hart has placed the *Pingching* at the disposal of H.E. Herr von Brandt. The *Pingching* will proceed to Tientsin and take the Minister on board to Chemulpo, where he will disembark and proceed to Seoul. The *Pingching* will then leave for Chefoo on Customs business and return to Chemulpo when the Minister and his bride will go on board and come on to Shanghai.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated by a very successful gathering at the Shanghai Club, which took the form of a dinner at which the guests were only those who claimed Hibernian nationality, followed by a reception for which invitations had been liberally issued to the community. The entertainment, which with music and dancing lasted into that part of the morning vaguely described as "the small hours," was very greatly enjoyed by all participating in it. The arrangements were excellent and the characteristic decorations much admired. Having been asked to regard it as a private function, we refrain from giving an extended account.

The following telegram was received on Tuesday from the Board of Directors of the China Mutual S.N. Co., Ltd., London:—Directors advise satisfactory general meeting. Amount added to depreciation, boiler, and reserve fund £13,000. Carried forward £1,300. Dividend on preference shares payable on the 27th March, 3% for half year ending 31st December (equal to 6% per annum).

In our Notes from Native Papers will be found a brief account of fresh outbreaks of the Yellow River, by which terrible damage has been done.

A telegram was received on Monday evening from Newchwang announcing that it was not expected the river would open for a week. The *Singan* left Tientsin on Saturday for Chefoo to await instructions to proceed to Newchwang. Some of the steamers leave here for Newchwang on Sunday.

The master of a steamer on his way down from Chefoo on Sunday last reports

that while taking the sun at noon on that day when in lat. 34° he saw a large spot on the luminary.

The news of the death M. Jules Ferry will be received with general regret. He was the last of the French statesmen of the present day entirely untouched by the Panama Scandal. He was born at St. Dié (Voges) in 1832, became a barrister and journalist, and under the Empire was a prominent member of the Left in the *Corps Législatif*. He was in several Cabinets under the Republic, and was Premier during the late Franco-Chinese war, the accidental recapture of Langson by the Chinese causing his fall, in 1884. For over eight years his reputation as *Le Tonkinois* had practically kept him out of politics, though he became a Senator in December, 1890. His election the other day as President of the Senate seemed to foreshadow his return to power, and his death at the comparatively early age of sixty-one is a distinct loss to France.

Wednesday's victory gives Oxford 27 wins against Cambridge's 22, and is the fourth consecutive win for Oxford.

The *Belgic* brings the news of the death at the age of 75 of General Beauregard, the Confederate Commander. The Reading Railroad has been forced into bankruptcy; and Governor McKinley has lost all his money. President Cleveland has appointed Richard Olney of Boston Attorney-General, and Hilary A. Herbert of Alabama Secretary of the Navy.

From news as to the Indian budget received by wire on Monday we learn that there is to be a loan of 30,000,000 rupees issued and that the Council drawings for the year will amount to £13,700,000.

On Monday being the Spring Festival, the men-of-war were decorated with the Japanese ensign at the main out of compliment to the Japanese cruiser *Tsukushi* now in port.

The Fourteenth Annual Report of the Chinese Religious Tract Society has been now issued in a pamphlet of 51 pages, including a full report of the annual sermon preached at Union Church by the Rev. J. Stevens, and catalogues of the English and Chinese books and tracts, etc., on sale at the Society's Depository. A short table giving the comparative popularity of the publications sold shows that the most popular (5,080 copies), excluding the Calendar, was a one-page tract called *True Happiness*, by Tsoong Tze-nung, Esq.

Messrs. Buchheister & Co., agents of the New Imuris Mines, Ltd., send us a copy of the report on the mines of Mr. Hammond, the expert recently sent to the mines on the recommendation of the London, Paris, and American Bank. It entirely confirms the report made by a San Francisco expert some time since, and poolpoohed by the directors, that the mines are practically worthless. Mr. Hammond's summary is:—"The result of my examination shows conclusively, that, First: There is no mineral at present exposed upon the Company's property that can be worked with profit, and, Second: That the indications are most unfavourable for the discovery of valuable ore bodies by further explorations." Meanwhile the shareholders must be comforted by learning "that there is a prospect of finding a purchaser for the concentrating mill and every effort will also be made to dispose of the railway and plant."

The following telegram re the New Imuris Mines, Limited, has been received by Messrs. Buchheister and Co. from Messrs. J. Whittall & Co.:—"Meeting adjourned to 15th May. Full particulars sent by mail."

We have to thank Messrs. White and Miller for a copy of a chart compiled by Mr. Harry Owen White, showing the variations, at intervals of three days, in bank demand rates of exchange in Shanghai on London for the twenty years ending on 31st December last. The highest point,

5s. 11½d., was touched in May and June 1874; the lowest, 3s. 8½d., in December 1892.

We have to thank the Statistical Department of the Customs for a copy of the Chinese edition of the *List of Lighthouses*, etc., with coloured map.

We have received copies of *The Child's Paper* for March, April and May, 1893, and note that the May number commences the nineteenth volume. There is much good reading, religious and general, in these papers, and each number has several illustrations of varying age and merit.

We have to thank Mr. Komuro, Manager here of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, for the information that the *Rising Sun* is mistaken as to the result of the finding of the Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Japanese barque *Chihaya Maru*. Captain Fujiki's certificate was not dealt with, but was returned to him, with a caution to be more careful in future.

Last week the Customs divers Messrs. Wilson and Paine were engaged at Woosung blowing up a junk that sank there some weeks ago after collision with a steamer.

On Friday morning last at about 7 o'clock the firemen were called out for a fire at the match factory, off Seward Road extension, but before they arrived on the scene the danger was over. There was some grumbling at what was considered a false alarm, but there actually was a fire though it was of no consequence. It was reported by a member of the fire brigade and the smoke was seen from the Hongkew Bell Tower.

The question of the colour of the uniform for the recently formed Engineer corps has given rise to some discussion. The great majority of the members are in favour of representations being made to headquarters with a view to sanction being obtained for a blue uniform, instead of the red.

The mouth of the Soochow Creek has silted up so much that the bed on the Hongkew side at low water is bare under five bays of the bridge, or nearly half way across, for the bridge has only eleven bays in all. In consequence of this, the Municipal Surveyor's Department is making a drain with concrete pipes to low water mark.

It may not be generally known that some of the native butchers do not send into the country to select their own cattle for slaughtering, but rely upon the cattle dealers bringing their animals to Shanghai. This plan, while saving the butchers a good deal of trouble, is not so satisfactory as if the purchasers sent into the country themselves and had their pick from a large number of animals. The meat supplied to the Shanghai markets, is, no doubt, good, but it would probably be better if the selection were made in the country. Mr. H. E. Hall who is opening a place of business in Nanking Road is one of those who thinks he can better cater to the wants of his constituents by getting his cattle direct from Tanyang, where regular cattle markets are held, an idea which is also maintained by some of the other butchers, for a large drove of bullocks from Tanyang arrived at Shanghai on Tuesday.

Capt. Lew Buah, the only commander who tried to save his ship at the Pagoda Anchorage bombardment, was a passenger to Shanghai by the *Taiwan* on Saturday.

M. J. Chapsal, Agent of the Messageries Maritimes, received a telegram on Monday informing him that the *Yarra* was run into in the Suez Canal by an English vessel, that the damage sustained was not serious, and that she would probably arrive at Singapore on the 5th April, one week after her due date by the schedule.

Messrs. Melchers and Co. received a telegram on Monday morning from the head office of the North-German Lloyds at Bremen, to the effect that the steamers of the company, commencing with the *Sachsen*, will call at Naples in addition to Genoa. The homeward mails will, in consequence, leave the steamers at Naples.

The old "ninety-day" gunboat *Lulu*, which, after being converted into a sailing vessel and employed on the China coast as a merchantman, was finally turned into a pontoon for the Old Ningpo Wharf, sank some time ago, and is now being blown up by the Customs' divers. Messrs. Paine and Wilson were at work on the wreck on Monday morning for this purpose, but could only use small charges of dynamite, owing to the proximity of vessels and houses. During one of the explosions the water was thrown up to a height of about fifty feet.

The French mail which left Shanghai on 4th February was delivered in London on Tuesday, three days late. As she passed through the Suez Canal, apparently on her due date, it is surmised that she met with bad weather in the Mediterranean.

The *Pingling* left here last week for the Hieshans to select a suitable spot for a lighthouse on those islands. She towed to Woosung the bell buoy which is to be placed at the mouth of the river.

The hulk *Shanghai* was towed down to Shanghai from Hankow by the *Poyang* on Sunday.

The *Mirapore*, with the English mail, left Singapore at 5 p.m. on Sunday for Hongkong and Shanghai.

The *Malva* is the first of the P. and O. Co's steamers to occupy the company's upper buoy since the ill-fated *Bukhara* left it.

The *Peru*, with San Francisco dates to 4th March, arrived at Yokohama on Tuesday, and her mails will probably come on in the *Kobe Maru* which is due here on Tuesday next.

The *Bombay* had the misfortune to touch the ground coming through Bonham Pass and will probably have to dock.

The Shanghai river silted up in an unaccountable manner in places sometimes, and yesterday morning while the *Sachsen* was hauling off to the buoy from the China Merchants' lower wharf, those on board were surprised to find that the vessel, which was drawing less than twenty feet, had touched bottom. The *Sachsen* remained in this position for some time, but eventually floated and was towed to her buoy without having sustained any damage.

The following vessels arrived at Amoy between the 8th and 14th instant:—*Zafro*, *Loksang*, *Kungpai*, *Haitan*, *Pekin*, *Hailong*, *Yiksang*, *Nanshan*, *Namoa*, *Formosa*, *Sungkiang*, *Thales*, *Hainan*, *Telamon*, *Cass*, *Triumphante*, and *Fokien*. The departures were the *Telamon*, *Thales*, *Sungkiang*, *Fokien*, *Formosa*, *Nanshan*, *Paoting*, *Pekin*, *Yiksang*, *Namoa*, *Diamond*, *Hailong*, *Hongay*, *Loksang*, *Kungpai*, *Zafro*, and *Emma T. Crowell*.

Mr. B. Ruttunjee writes as follows in his weekly share report of the 16th inst.:—"Business remains dull, and there is no material change in prices to record except in the Sheridans, which have declined considerably since my last issue. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—A sale at 108½ prem. has been effected. Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, Ltd., shares have changed hands at Tls. 1.60. Insurances.—Marine.—North-Chinas have again been sold at Tls. 110. Fire.—Sales of Hongkongs at \$246.25, and Chinas at \$83 have been reported. Shipping.—Shanghai Tug Boat Co.'s Report for 1892 is to hand. Since the publication of this report a wire has been received by the agents to the effect that the Company's tug-boat *Samson* had salvaged treasure from the wreck of the *Bukhara* to the amount of Tls. 96,000, in addition to what had been salvaged before, viz., Tls. 68,000. No business reported. Cargo Boats.—Shanghai have been purchased at par ex final dividend of Tls. 14. Wharves and Docks.—Nothing doing. Mining.—Sheridans have declined to Tls. 10, owing to unfavourable news from the Mines, where Tls. 30,000 is required for immediate use; most, if not all, of this amount, I am informed, has been raised locally, and there is now every chance of the trouble being tidied

over. Lauds.—Shanghai have changed hands at Tls. 25.50. Miscellaneous.—Nothing reported.

At the Mixed Court on Saturday, a gambler was fined \$2, and a hundred blows were awarded a Pootung man who stole a blue cotton jacket, which he took from the person of a boy. A boy who stole a tin of kerosene from a house was sentenced to one week's imprisonment. A woman who damaged the floor of a house was ordered to be imprisoned at the Mixed Court for three days, and to pay for the damage done.

Two weeks' imprisonment was awarded a Ningpo man by the Mixed Court on Monday for assaulting a native policeman while in the execution of his duty, a similar sentence being passed on a hawk who attempted to extort money, and violently assaulted the complainant. Two other men concerned with the last prisoner were cautioned and ordered to find security. The hawk was also ordered to find security.

At the Mixed Court on Wednesday, a burglar was sentenced to 100 blows, one month's imprisonment, and to be deported. A cook was sentenced to three days' imprisonment for being drunk and assaulting a native policeman. A thief got one month's imprisonment for stealing bedding and clothing, while a boatman who was charged with stealing some timber was ordered to find security if called upon to appear.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 18th inst.—Judgment was delivered in Hongkong by Mr. Ackroyd, puisne judge, on the 13th in the case in which the second officer of the *Whampoa* sued the captain for \$500 damages for not giving him a proper discharge from the ship, so that he was unable to get another berth. The Court found that Captain Hutchison had not been the cause of the plaintiff's being unable to get employment, and dismissed the action with costs.—The report of the China and Manila Steamship Co., Ltd., for 1892 shows a net balance at debit of profit and loss of \$31,363.—The report of the Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., for 1892 shows a net profit, after writing off depreciation, etc., of \$19,054, and the directors propose to pay a dividend of 12 per cent., and carry forward \$1,054.—The Alice Memorial Hospital at Hongkong is to be enlarged by an addition to be called the Netherlands Hospital.—According to the *Avenir du Tonkin*, M. Godard, Colonial Treasury Paymaster at Sontay, in Tongking, has confessed to having made away with \$20,000, which he says he took to gratify his grudge against his superior, M. Guillaumot, who is responsible for his deficiencies.—The Pacific Mail and P. and O. steamers are in future to call at Nagasaki and Kobe on the homeward route, going through the Inland Sea.—The hearing of the charges against the Hongkong Treasury clerk Alves was begun at the Police Court before Commr. W. C. H. Hastings on the 14th, and continued on the 15th.—The report of the Steam Launch Co., Ltd., for 1892 shows net earnings \$2,885, and balance at debit of profit and loss of \$3,918.—The four-masted ship *Somali* put back to Singapore on the 7th inst., having spent fifteen days trying to beat to Iloilo.—The verdict at the enquiry into the death of Mr. C. A. Ross was "death from a self-inflicted bullet wound."—Four thousand Chinamen in Penang have presented a petition to the Resident Councillor there asking for Home Rule for Penang.—There has been an outbreak of anti-Christian feeling near Amoy, in which a female native convert was murdered and her husband's *que* torn out by the roots, while several others were injured. The Rev. R. M. Ross was pelted with stones, and had to get protection from the magistrate's *yamen*.—The proceedings in the case of Alves were continued in the Police Court on the 15th and 16th, the cross-examination by Mr. Francis, who appears for the prisoner, disclosing considerable

laxity in the administration of the Treasury at Hongkong.—The supply of water had been cut down to the period between 6 and 10 a.m., and many Chinese were complaining that they could get no water at all, while their wells had all been filled up by the government.—A Marine Court was to assemble at the Hongkong Harbour Office on the 18th to enquire into the loss of the *Penshaw*.—The London Lyric Company has been drawing crowded houses nightly at the City Hall theatre.—At the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd., meeting one or two shareholders complained of the poor results shown for the half-year, and it was decided to hold a private meeting of shareholders in a fortnight.

The *Daily Press* of the 15th says:—The trial of the Customs tidewater Jackson, who, it will be remembered, unwittingly caused the death of a Chinese near Swatow while on a shooting expedition, took place at that port before Mr. Geo. Jamieson, Assistant Judge of H.B.M. Court for China and Japan, on the 10th inst. The charge was one of manslaughter, and the jury having heard the evidence, which of course showed an absence of intent on the part of the prisoner, but culpable negligence in the handling of firearms, brought in a verdict of guilty, and sentence of six months' imprisonment was passed. This sentence, which is considered light, has caused great dissatisfaction amongst the natives, and as a precautionary measure against a possible popular outbreak of feeling against foreigners H.M.S. *R-dpole*, in response to a request by Mr. Wilkinson, Consul at Swatow, for a gunboat to be held in readiness, was despatched yesterday morning. Upon the arrival of the *Redpole* the popular feeling, if it has not quite abated by this time, will doubtless subside.

"Upsilon" writes in the *Daily Press*:—We speak of official impertinence in Hongkong, but Singapore can beat us in that respect. At a recent meeting of the Legislative Council there the Attorney-General said:—"The hon. member who represented the Chamber of Commerce had spoken with his customary vehemence and told them that in so doing he was speaking on behalf of the august body he represented; he thought his hon. friend must have used the phrase in a Pickwickian sense, because so far as he could judge the only respectable thing the Chamber of Commerce had ever done was to nominate the hon. gentleman to that Council." If Mr. O'Brien or Mr. Goodman was to say that the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce had only done one respectable thing in the whole course of its existence he would very soon be brought to book. Yet Singapore sat quietly under the insult, and not a single reference seems to have been made to it in either of the local papers.

The *China Mail* of the 10th says:—A special correspondent writes from Tientsin—says the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Yat Po*) in its to-day's issue—that H.E. ex-Customs Taotai at Wuhu, Yang Yu, the new Chinese Minister to the United States, Spain and Peru, is still in Peking. His credentials will not be ready till some time in the 2nd moon, and he will leave for Shanghai about the 3rd moon. His family are still in Wuhu, whither he will go for them before he proceeds to his new office in Washington, U.S.A. I hear the new Minister Yang offers the first Secretaryship in his Legation to Mr. Chun O-tung, the ex-Chinese Consul-General at Cuba and late of Hongkong, but Mr. Chun declines to accept the offer, preferring to remain at the Kaiping Mines as managing director, where he has placed the working system of the company on such a successful and satisfactory basis that a great saving has been effected and where great results from his management may be expected in future. Besides, H.E. Viceroy Li Hung-chang, it is said, does not seem willing to allow him to leave the company's service as it is difficult to obtain an experienced and competent officer to fill his posi-

tion, while H.E. Chang Taotai, the Chief Director of the company, urges on the Grand Secretary not to let Mr. Chun go away from the Mines, saying that Chun's services to the Company are indispensable and onerous.

The *Ozuz* brought us Japan papers with dates from Yokohama to the 13th, and Kobe the 15th instant.—A double residence, No. 113, Creekside, Yokohama, was gutted by fire on the 9th.—A fire broke out on Messrs. Carl Rohde & Co.'s premises, Yokohama, on the 10th, but was put out before much damage was done. A Swedish beachcomber named Carl Olsen, who was discovered on the premises, was arrested on the place on the charge of incendiarism, and stated that he caused the fire unintentionally by dropping a lighted match.—The inquest on Mr. Peebles, who was burnt to death in the fire at the Club Hotel Annex, ended in a verdict of accidental death.—Count Yamagata, late Minister of Justice, has accepted the Presidency of the Privy Council.—Viscount Niire, Minister of Marine, has resigned, and has been succeeded by Count Saigo Yorinichi.—Steps are being taken by the Fire Insurance Companies to raise the tariff on houses on the Yokohama Bluff.—The Specie Bank is to open a branch at Shanghai almost immediately.—A Kobe paper notes that the P. & O. Company has reinstated Kitano Yoshie, the pilot, in his old position.

The *Saikio Maru* brought us Japan papers with dates from Yokohama to the 15th and Kobe the 16th inst.—Great regret is expressed at the transfer of M. Collin de Plancy, who has been French *Chargé d'Affaires* at Tokio, to Peking.—Count Matsukata is not unlikely to resume the portfolio of Finance.—Mr. Ogawa, the noted Tokio photographer, intends to visit Chicago.—Viscount Inouye, the Father of Japanese Railways, intends to resign his post as Director of the Railway Bureau.—The Japanese warship *Ishikawa* has been condemned as unfit for further service.—Small-pox is raging with great virulence in Osaka.—The average dividend of the 133 National Banks in Japan for the last half-year was a little over 11 per cent. per annum. Their united capital is over \$61,000,000.

We take the following notes from the *Rising Sun* of the 15th inst.:

In consequence of the sad and continued illness of Mr. W. Posch, the manager of the China and Japan Trading Co. in Kobe, Mr. E. Rogers has been appointed manager at that port, being superseded in his position here by Mr. F. G. Stone.

While the Inquiry into the loss of the *Chishima* was pending, Lieut. Kaburaki and Sub-Lieut. Tsuchiyama were not granted the Imperial audience customarily given to naval officers leaving for or returning from abroad. On their acquittal, however, both gentlemen were granted the honour on the 27th ult.

The finding of the Court of Enquiry into the loss of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha's sailing-vessel *Chihaya Maru*, on the China coast, some time ago, was delivered in the local Marine Bureau on the 12th inst., resulting in Capt. Fujiki being deprived of his certificate, and the suspension of the certificate of Chief Officer Nozaki for one month.

The *London and China Express* mentions that the Shanghai and Lancashire Trading Company (Limited) has been registered by Hinch, Milne and Bury, 7, Mount-street, Manchester, with a capital of £10,000 in £10 shares. The object is to carry on business as merchants, shippers, importers, exporters, warehousemen, carriers, forwarding agents, capitalists, and financiers. There shall not be less than three nor more than seven directors. The first are A. M. R. Renny, G. H. Renny, J. Bury, and E. V. Renny. Qualification, £100. Remuneration, £100 per annum each.

The *British North Borneo Herald* of the 1st of February opens with an article congratulating the colony on the announce-

ment made at the last meeting of shareholders in the North Borneo Company, that a syndicate was being formed to send out a thoroughly experienced mining engineer to report on the mineral aspects, or prospects, of the territory. The *Herald* refers to the indications already discovered of the existence of gold in the upper Segama and at Lahadatu, and trusts "the prospecting of this latter country will result in the opening up of a payable and extensive reefing field."—It mentions that "all the tobacco estates on the Kinabatangan are well forward with the crop for the 1893 markets, and the tobacco is of very good quality."—We learn that the crocodiles are a great nuisance in this last-named river. "A son of the Government Clerk Drahime of Lamag was taken by a crocodile at Koyah while bathing. The brute dragged the boy under the water, but a portion of the body was subsequently recovered and buried."—There was a race meeting at Labuan on the last day of 1892, with five events.—A Fancy Dress Ball, attended by twelve ladies and twenty-three gentlemen, was given at the new club building, Sandakan, on Twelfth Night last.—We learn from the Government Reports that the Department of Public Works had been abolished, but we see that the supply of pure water to Sandakan was only waiting for the arrival of the pipes and fittings from England, while the government surveyor adds that "the town has (notwithstanding the 'wave of depression') increased its number of buildings."

An Indian paper discussing the recrudescence of leprosy in India says that Dr. Manson discovered that leprosy is caused in China by the introduction of the poison into the blood by mosquitoes. It is thought that this may account for the prevalence of leprosy in the extreme north, where mosquitoes abound. In Japan minute precautions are taken against mosquitoes and other insects; where they abound leprosy is endemic.

A report from Montreal mentioned in a New York paper says that if the Canadian Pacific Company establish a fast Atlantic service the Northern Pacific Company will follow suit, by making arrangements with an Atlantic line, and thus securing a parallel line throughout.

The *Siam Free Press* of the 3rd inst. mentions that the King of Siam is seriously ill, and discusses with much anxiety the question of the succession to the throne.

The Editor of the *Bombay Guardian* has published an apology in the daily papers for having asserted that Lady Harris appeared at the recent *tableaux vivants* at Government House, Parcel, in man's clothes with a beard, Lord Harris having written to the Editor saying the statement was absolutely untrue and calling for an immediate contradiction and apology.

The *N. Y. Maritime Register* says:—The Postmaster-General states that the Government, during the last fiscal year for transatlantic service in the conveyance of United States mails, paid \$449,409 to foreign steamship lines, and \$3.48 to American vessels. The next year, however, will show a great change in these proportions. The advent of the International Company under the American flag with fast steamships will curtail to it a large proportion of ocean postage. The time is fast approaching when the larger part of the United States mails for foreign countries will be transported in American vessels. That is one reason why the outlook remains blue for foreign ship-owners. They do not like to see the Americans in the business.

The *New York Nation* says:—The thoughtful people of the United States, after the experience they have had and are having of the trouble they have brought on the country by trying to oblige the silver interest, are by no means eager to plunge into more trouble to oblige the sugar interest by annexing Hawaii. One such experiment is enough in a century.

About the addition of some 28,000 Japanese and Chinese, 9,000 Portuguese, and 42,000 natives to the voting or non-voting population of the United States, they feel very much like the Arkansas man who said: "God knows I've had trouble enough without putting water in my whisky." They remember that we have absolutely no system or plan of governing possessions like the Hawaiian Islands except as either States or Territories. "Crown colonies" are unknown to us. And those who desire for the republic greater variety of races, and especially more colour in our population, would do well, if they have the stomach for it, to read the account, on Thursday last, of the burning and torture of a negro in Texas. That shocking story is a sufficiently awful illustration of the power of race hatred to convert Anglo-Saxons, at least, into devils incarnate. Do we want more material to feed this apparently inextinguishable passion?

The *Times* correspondent, M. de Blowitz, writing on the condemnation of M. Ferdinand de Lesseps to five years' imprisonment and a fine, says that "those persons may be excused who note with pain a judgment which strikes so severely at the honoured name of Lesseps." This judgment of the Court is stamped with the cruelty which characterises the present campaign. The thicket of denunciation in which M. de Lesseps has been entangled has sprung and flourished from poisoned roots. When the man went abroad the world acclaimed in him his country and its genius. He carried far and wide the glorious evidence of the genius of his race, and in him were greeted the French daring and greatness that had made the Suez Canal and joined two seas. He alone did more to restore to France the glory diminished by her disasters than all the miserable politicians taken together who pursue him with their hate."

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily Press* treats the judgment with more common sense and less sentiment. He says:—

Now what did the accused do; what do they differ from similar delinquents? Old M. de Lesseps, now in dotage, and so unaffected by the sentence, traded on his name and on the success of the Suez Canal to launch the Panama Co. Neither he nor his son nor the others, put one farthing of their own money into the bogus scheme; they alleged and chorused that they possessed executed contracts, that were not executed at all; they misrepresented the state of affairs alike to the public and the shareholders; they paid fat salaries and large presents to themselves; they cooked balance sheets; they concealed the books from authorised examiners; they suborned the press, bribed legislators and officials, and persisted in these acts till the smash up—the close. They squandered the fr. 1,500 millions, subscribed by the humble, who trusted to M. de Lesseps' honour and good faith; that army is ruined; many of its members are in beggary, save those that violent and natural death removed. And when outraged public opinion compelled the authorities to act, and fearless judges did their duty, as they do towards all swindlers, public opinion bursts forth that the sentence is too severe, is pitiless, and unfair. Every day bogus financiers are incarcerated for duping the public and thieving their clients, and the verdict of Society is "Served them right." But the Ten Commandments are to be set aside, so as not to cause pain to the great producer of broken hearts and of shattered fortunes, who did not hesitate to risk honour, character, and a fair name to feed a vanity and risk a dubious glory!

The following note will be of interest to intending visitors to Chicago:—

Visitors to the World's Fair from England and Canada will have the opportunity of enjoying the comforts and privileges of a first-class club during their stay in Chi-

cago. The British and Canadian Exchange Club has recently been incorporated and has engaged commodious rooms on the second floor of the Auditorium. S. Ford Howe is the managing director of the club, and the project has the approval and assistance of Director-General Davis, Lyman J. Gage, Ferd. W. Peck, Gen. Grover, Col. McKenzie, Major Handy, Judge Gresham and other prominent persons. It will be an Anglo-American club, a limited number of Americans being admitted to membership. The club's quarters in the Auditorium include gentlemen's reading, writing, reception and smoking rooms; ladies' drawing, reception and toilet rooms; post-office and information bureaux, offices, etc. The reading room will be well stocked with American, English and Canadian publications, and excellent facilities will be afforded for social intercourse, reception and despatch of mail, cashing of drafts, providing hotel and other accommodations, selection of routes of travel, and in short, nearly everything foreign visitors may desire. The club will be opened on March 1st, and maintained until the end of the year.

At last, says a New York paper, the American line of steamers is now to begin business under the American flag and to keep in this country some of the money which Americans pay for crossing the Atlantic. It is officially announced that the first sailing will be from New York on 25th February, with the twin-screw steamship *New York*. This was formerly the well-known Inman liner *City of New York*. The Inman Line ceases to exist and the steamers which made it famous will have their names shortened by the removal of the appellation "City of," and simply be known as *New York, Paris, Berlin, and Chester*. The house flag of the American line will consist of a blue American eagle on a white ground. Great improvements have been made all around, in the steamers' accommodations, wharf, landing, and passenger arrangements here and abroad. Southampton will now be the English terminus of the line and the arrangements made there will enable passengers to land at the new Empress dock directly from the steamship. A special train will take them direct to London in one hour and forty-five minutes. The *Paris* and *New York* are the steamers under the American flag, but the Company intends to build at Philadelphia five new steamships. Two of these, already ordered, will be larger than the *Paris* and *New York* and will be built by the Cramps. The three others will measure 10,000 tons, or only 500 tons less than the *Paris*. It is the intention of the International Navigation Company to run weekly from New York one steamer direct for Southampton and one for Antwerp, calling at Southampton and Boulogne. The steamers will be the fastest first-class boats. The Company will also run a line of steamships to Queens-town and Liverpool. Two of the fleet for the Liverpool route are under construction on the other side. They will measure 8,000 tons, and will carry freight and second-cabin passengers only.

The following important clause is Section I of a bill now before the U.S. Congress which would, it was believed, become law during the present session. In that case it will take effect on the 1st of July next:—That it shall not be lawful for the manager, agent, master or owner of any vessel transporting merchandise or property from or between ports of the United States and foreign ports, to insert in any bill of lading or shipping document, any clause, covenant or agreement, whereby it, he or they shall be relieved from liability for loss or damage arising from negligence, fault or failure in proper loading, stowage, custody, care or proper delivery of any and all lawful merchandise or property committed to its or their charge, and all words or clause of such import inserted in bills of lading or shipping receipts shall be null and void and of no effect.

Miscellaneous Articles.

CHITS.

21st Mar.

"Of writing many books there is no end," and the same statement, with a change of noun, is true of the custom which has been severely called the curse of the East, i.e. the inditing of those harmless looking little missives popularly known as chits, which arrive with such persistency, throughout the day, in oriental climes. The word "chit" at home has such a widely different meaning for John Bull and his representatives, that it is only after several weeks' residence abroad that one begins to grasp the true significance of the apparently trifling monosyllable, and realises that it is a formidable power, to be grappled with in sober earnest, and confronted with Herculean strength, if one wishes to avoid being overwhelmed by the monster. The chit is like a cat; it has many lives, and although you may stifle it in the morning by a curt and cold rejoinder, you will probably see its counterpart lying on your table when you come home at the end of a long day's work; the crisp fresh surface proving aggravating in the extreme to its unhappy recipient, who knows that the innocent-looking epistle very likely contains some abstruse question that will necessitate hours of reflection before it can be answered. It is absolutely ubiquitous, and confronts you in every place, following you from your house to your Club, and intruding itself upon your notice at an afternoon call; it is brought to you with the soup and the fish at a dinner-party and may even lurk within the leaves of a prayer-book at Church. It has been known to wrack the happiness of homes, and avert proposals.

Considered merely as a means of social intercourse, the chit has some trifling merit; but regarded as a thief of time, it deserves all our condemnation. No matter how important the work on hand, or how deep in study a man may be, the chit will inevitably confront him with its eternal request to be answered. People at home have been known to murmur at the constant arrival of the post, complaining bitterly that every hour may add to their daily increasing pile of correspondence; but this is a minor evil compared to those of the system now in question. Life in London furnishes one with many pretexts for ignoring a letter for days after its reception; delay in its arrival, absence from home, and a million other possibilities may be pleaded as an excuse for a tardy reply; in fact there is even a chance that the note itself may be summarily consigned to the Dead Letter Office. But in the East, there is no such escape; your correspondent probably lives within a few doors of you, and before despatching his epistle has doubtless tracked you to your home

with detective-like certainty, while the calmly dignified Oriental features of the "boy" who hands you the book containing it, evince in every line a firm resolve not to leave the room without your reply. The lack, at the moment, of a writing implement, is of no assistance whatever in solving the difficulty; for, seeing your embarrassment, the said boy dives into the recesses of a capacious sleeve, and produces a well-sharpened pencil, carefully guarded by a point-protector of unmistakably English manufacture, which leaves you no further chance of delaying your answer. Abandoning, therefore, the hopeless effort of evading this unwelcome task, you scribble a reply, and with intense relief, watch the impassive Celestial vanish; after which, if of resolute mental fibre, you turn again to your interrupted labours, undaunted by the chilling certainty that dozens of similar emissaries are jostling each other at the entrance to your house.

It cannot be denied that the torturing engine is driven with most assiduity by the feminine portion of the community, and a glance through any woman's chit-book reveals the fact that she is amply revenged for her own individual sufferings. The dates are absolutely continuous; to pervert another quotation, one may certainly after a cursory survey of the closely written pages, draw the inference "not a day without a chit;" while there is even a chance of discovering the owner's especial friend, by noting the perpetual recurrence, day after day, of one particular name. There is no doubt that the chit-book unguardedly used is a dangerous weapon in the hands of the inexperienced, and a rash answer, hastily scrawled within its leaves, may betray the secret of your last letter, to your next correspondent; hence many people's preference for a non-committal sheet of paper sent with each separate note, to the use of that tell-tale volume which "whoever runs may read." On the other hand, as an opportunity for refusing unwelcome dinner invitations, the chit-book may rank with that world-famed trinity of pens, the poetic advertisement of which is so familiar to us all, and may even be regarded as a means of social salvation. Who has not often suffered at home from the dread and terrible fear of being bidden to what Rhoda Broughton so aptly calls a "Beast Party?" And who has not regarded a dainty card of invitation with mixed feelings of hope and apprehension at all the visions it conjures up? It is a comfort to know that in this one respect, at least, the Eastern system has its advantages; it may be delightful to dine with Lucullus, but the anticipation of the entertainment becomes still more attractive when you know which of Lucullus' friends you are asked to meet; and there is unlimited opportunity for avoiding your *bêtes noires* when a list of guests comes round with your invitation, and you can thus prevent any possibility of having to

dine with a creditor, or sit next the girl who jilted your brother yesterday.

There is another form of chit even more deadly than the one we have been discussing; the facile instrument for getting into debt known as the money chit, that has the same force as an I.O.U. and is so effectual in starting griffins on the road to ruin, and introducing the apple of discord into many a domestic paradise. The objectionable subject, however, has been so thoroughly analysed, and its noxious character so well investigated, as to require no more than a slight allusion here. A modern Eve has been often known to labour under the mistaken impression that a cheque-book was so much available capital, and has therefore fondly imagined that so long as the one owned by her husband still contained a few leaves, his resources were equally unlimited. Picture her delight then at being transferred to the East, where she finds an even simpler arrangement in vogue and quickly proves that a quire of paper from the nearest stationer is of more avail than many cheque-books. Alas! the day of reckoning comes all too swiftly and surely, and we can easily conjecture the discomfited matron's state of mind when she makes the appalling discovery that chits and cheques alike prove fallacious unless founded on a metallic basis without which reams of signatures will count as naught.

We will not depress our readers by dwelling on this sombre subject, but will merely add a few closing words in praise of the hitherto much-abused chit-book, which becomes invested with a new character when regarded as a record of pleasant days and charming friends. How its hastily-scrawled answers conjure up long-forgotten memories of a delightful past, and how nearly akin to reverence is the feeling with which we turn its leaves. Those few sympathetic lines expressing regret for our temporary indisposition, and concluding with a promise to come and administer speedy consolation, were written by a tried and trusty comrade in the Customs, who has long since blossomed into the double honours of a Commissioner and a Benedict! That riding appointment was made by a soldier-friend in Hong-kong whose genial spirit and unflinching true-heartedness were hushed into silence by the wreck of a P. & O. steamer; and those dainty initials in that remote corner were written by a hand that shortly afterwards closed the romance of our life. *Eheu fugaces!* With an involuntary sigh, we condemn the well-worn volume to the flames, and, turning to that ever-ready remedy for a fit of the blues, our "oldest and strongest pipe," we lazily watch the chit-book question banish into space in a succession of rings and curls of smoke, and bid adieu to our old Eastern souvenirs with a firm determination no longer to

"burden our remembrance
With a heaviness that's gone."

THE A.D.C. CENTENARY.

22nd Mar.

It is quite appropriate that the Amateur Dramatic Club of Shanghai should give its hundredth performance in the Jubilee Year of the Settlement; in fact it may be taken as the first of the commemorative celebrations. Established when Shanghai was twenty-four years old, the Club has existed now for twenty-six years. From its earliest days the community has fully recognised the necessity for reasonable recreation, and its patronage of the drama in all its forms has been constant and whole-hearted. In his *Story of Shanghai* Mr. Maclellan tells us that he is unable to say when the first amateur company performed in Shanghai, but in 1850, when the settlement was only seven years old, the "new" theatre was opened, and we printed a few days ago the programme of a grand performance given in 1853. Thespis migrated in those days from one godown to another, and some of his temporary homes are still in existence. He appeared at one time in a godown behind the Club, at another time in the Szechuen Road, then in a godown in the Peking Road, now occupied by Messrs. Reid, Evans & Co., and after that in a godown, no longer existing, in the Hongkong Road. The performances given in this temporary theatre were so successful that subscriptions were raised for converting it into a permanent theatre, and the response was so general that the scheme was changed, and it was determined to build a proper theatre. At this date there were two amateur companies in the field; that of the Volunteer Infantry, which included the older generation of actors, and that of the Shanghai Rangers, the predecessors of the present Light Horse, who, under the genial presidency of the popular consul "Johnny" Markham, had burst upon the community in a blaze of triumph on the Queen's Birthday, 1865, and continued their successes with youthful energy and spirit. Under the guidance of the late British Consul-General at Canton, Sir Chaloner Alabaster, and the present president of the A. D. C., the two companies were amalgamated in the Amateur Dramatic Club, which included in its membership all the English-speaking dramatic talent in the community. The new Club undertook the care of the new Lyceum Theatre, which was constructed entirely of wood, the architect being Mr. F. A. Groom, and the contractor Captain John P. Roberts. It was on the site of the present Lyceum Terrace. The name Lyceum was a survival from the godowns previously used; a suggestion was made that it should be called the "Globe," in memory of Shakespeare and as being more appropriate in a cosmopolitan community, and it was proposed to have a bust of the Swan of Avon in the foyer, and under it the line, "It cannot be but he was murdered here!" but the suggestion was rejected, for Shanghai was then, as now, nothing if not conservative.

The theatre was opened on the 1st of March 1867 with the "screaming farce" *Whitebait at Greenwich* and the burlesque *Faust and Marguerite*. The last scene of the burlesque was altered to introduce the then recently established Supreme Court, Mr. Doleful and Mr. Honeydew representing the Chief Judge, Sir Edmund Hornby, and the Assistant Judge, Mr. Goodwin; and it may be mentioned, as showing the favour with which theatricals have always been regarded here, that these two high judicial officials lent their wigs and gowns to their representatives, while the leader of the bar assisted to "make up" the actors in the green room. This wooden theatre, an admirable building for the purpose in every aspect except security from fire, was burnt to the ground—happily not during a performance—early in 1871. Money was raised again by debentures, the Recreation Fund assisting by converting their original shares into preference debentures, and it was determined to build a permanent theatre, this time of iron, and the secretary of the A.D.C., who was about to make a trip home, was commissioned to obtain plans. On his way home the secretary encountered a fellow-passenger who had been thrown out of his employment in a theatre in Australia by its having been burnt down. It was an iron building. On his arrival at home the secretary found that it was Captain Shaw's conviction that brick and hardwood were much more fireproof materials for a building than iron, and he accordingly obtained plans from an architect in London for a brick, iron, and hardwood theatre. These plans were somewhat modified, on their arrival in China, by Mr. William Kidner, and on them so modified, under Mr. Kidner's supervision, the present Lyceum Theatre was built. It is somewhat remarkable that the Theatre does not belong to any one. The debenture holders have a claim on it for the amount of their debentures, but the reversion belongs to nobody. The debenture holders elected a committee twenty years ago, but no trustees have ever been appointed, the first committee or so-called trustees—for there is no scheme or deed of trust in existence, though Mr. Mowat, the first secretary, was often asked to draft one—having gone on appointing their own colleagues from time to time without any reference to their constituents. In the two-years interregnum between the burning of the former and the opening of the present theatre, the A.D.C. enjoyed the hospitality of the Concordia Club in their pretty little theatre in the Foochow Road, the present theatre being opened with the farce *Incompatibility of Temper* and the comedy *Masks and Faces* on the 25th of January, 1874. It has never been finished, the original plan including iron verandahs on the south side, which were to be used as lounges and for smoking in the warm weather. As a theatre it is a most successful building, except that its stage arrange-

ments are somewhat antiquated, and it has never been properly warmed in the winter. Its acoustic properties are excellent. While the structure itself was built by the debenture holders, the stage was fitted up by, and the scenery, properties, and wardrobe belong to, the A.D.C., with whom the trustees have always worked harmoniously, except when there has been a little unavoidable friction between the two bodies. There are many old residents here and at home who regard the theatre and the A.D.C. with actual affection, and those who have retired on their laurels and their savings will read, we may be sure, with entire pleasure of the enthusiastic reception which the A.D.C. will secure to-night at its hundredth performance. Pleasant memories of the past will be evoked, memories of attempts and successes ephemeral indeed but yet lasting, touched with some inevitable sadness at the thought of the many comrades who with us fretted their brief hour and have now gone over to the majority.

CONDENSED MILK.—We have examined several samples of the "Milkmaid" condensed milk, including the "English Milkmaid" and "Swiss Milkmaid" brands, prepared by the Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Company. It is claimed that these condensed milks are made from pure cow's milk, containing all its original fat, and that they are free from all additions except cane sugar—that is, sucrose. The results of our analyses show that these statements are perfectly accurate. None of the samples we have examined contained less than 9 per cent. of milk fat, the amounts present varying from rather over 9 per cent. up to 11 per cent., the other constituents of milk being present in due proportion, together with the cane sugar added in the course of manufacture. The samples had, in fact, been prepared from genuine whole milk of good quality, and they were entirely free from chemical preservatives and from all other adulterants. The company have several factories, three of them being in England. We have inspected the factory at Aylesbury, and have observed every step in the process of production, which is of considerable interest. In view of the fact, to which we recently called attention, that very large quantities of so-called "condensed milk," practically devoid of fat, are sold, it is of great importance to be able to rely on obtaining condensed milk containing its proper amount of fat, and not made with unwholesome sugars. We are able to recommend the Anglo-Swiss Company's brands as being what they are represented to be, and as thoroughly reliable.—*British Medical Journal*.

Holloway's Pills.—For the cure of debility, bile, liver and stomach complaints this inappreciable medicine is so well known in every part of the world, and the cures performed by its use are so wonderful, that it now stands pre-eminent above all other remedies, more particularly for the cure of bilious and liver complaints, disorders of the stomach, dropsy and debilitated constitution. In these diseases the beneficial effects of the Pills are so permanent that the whole system is renewed, the organs of digestion strengthened, and a free inspiration promoted. They expel from the secretory organs and the circulation the morbid matter which produces inflammation, pain, fever, debility, and physical decay—thus annihilating, by their purifying properties, the virulence of the most painful and devastating diseases.

THE INDIAN COUNCIL DRAWINGS.

23rd Mar.

It must be apparent now to every one that the keynote to the fall in silver is not over-production, but the enormous annual drawings by the Indian Council. The news that we published on Tuesday that the probable drawings this year will be £18,700,000 as against £17,000,000 last year has caused a panic in silver and in exchange in all silver-using countries. This means throwing the equivalent of about 120,000,000 ounces of silver on the Indian market for the financial year 1893-94.

What the Indian government will do under the circumstances is awaited with deep interest. Mere "tiding over" will only aggravate the present condition of disaster.

The following is the *résumé* of the amounts annually drawn by the Indian Council since 1861, according to the Circular of Mr. J. Westwood Thompson:—

Government Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers.
Amounts drawn on India during each official year, with equivalent in Sterling.

Official Year.	Bills of Exchange and Telegraphic Transfers.	Amount received in Sterling.
1861/62* ...	Rs. 1,20,03,592 ...	£ 1,193,729
1862/63 ...	6,66,37,287 ...	6,641,576
1863/64 ...	9,01,41,740 ...	8,079,521
1864/65 ...	6,82,45,100 ...	6,789,473
1865/66 ...	7,04,71,747 ...	6,908,899
1866/67 ...	5,84,14,133 ...	5,613,746
1867/68 ...	4,28,18,177 ...	4,137,285
1868/69 ...	3,83,40,000 ...	3,705,741
1869/70 ...	7,20,00,000 ...	6,989,122
1870/71 ...	9,00,85,000 ...	8,443,509
1871/72 ...	10,70,00,000 ...	10,310,339
1872/73 ...	14,70,25,000 ...	13,939,095
1873/74 ...	14,26,57,000 ...	13,255,678
1874/75 ...	11,74,37,000 ...	10,841,615
1875/76 ...	13,75,00,000 ...	12,389,613
1876/77 ...	14,85,75,122 ...	12,695,799
1877/78 ...	11,69,85,000 ...	10,134,455
1878/79 ...	16,91,23,612 ...	13,948,565
1879/80 ...	18,35,00,000 ...	15,261,810
1880/81 ...	18,32,77,000 ...	15,230,677
1881/82 ...	22,21,00,350 ...	18,412,429
1882/83 ...	18,58,56,593 ...	15,120,521
1883/84 ...	21,62,15,462 ...	17,599,805
1884/85 ...	17,10,22,118 ...	13,758,909
1885/86 ...	13,53,25,369 ...	10,292,692
1886/87 ...	16,70,03,150 ...	12,136,279
1887/88 ...	21,81,23,993 ...	15,358,577
1888/89 ...	20,89,91,221 ...	14,262,850
1889/90 ...	22,41,86,638 ...	15,474,496
1890/91 ...	21,18,60,300 ...	15,960,034
1891/92 ...	23,57,14,369 ...	16,401,538
	Rs. 4,25,86,54,073	£352,317,386

* From 22nd January to 31st March only.

Total amount of India Council Bills and Telegraphic Transfers sold during the year 1892:—

	Rs.	Value Received.
On Calcutta	14,45,13,932:20=	9,205,449 16 4
„ Bombay	8,22,27,841:7:1=	5,255,412 16 11
„ Madras	2,94,29,098:9:10=	1,859,086 5 7
	25,61,70,872:2:11	16,319,948 18 10

THE SHANGHAI LIBRARY.

23rd Mar.

AN enquiry into the anomalies connected with many of the public institutions in Shanghai would be a very interesting one. We mentioned yesterday morning the case of the Lyceum Theatre, a valuable building occupying a large and very valuable piece of ground, which would have no legal owner if any one were to come forward and pay off the debentures, which amount to a sum considerably less than the value of the Theatre. Perhaps the attention we have drawn to the matter may lead the existing trustees to get a trust deed drawn up, and the property legally vested in some responsible body, as was done with the Recreation Fund some time ago. Since we wrote about the Theatre we have learnt that that most valuable institution the Shanghai Library is in a very similar position, as far as ownership is concerned, to the Lyceum. A trust deed appointing three trustees, who were to hold the books and property of the Library in trust for the subscribers, and without whose consent no books could be sold or otherwise disposed of, was, we are informed, actually drawn up by Mr. Latham some ten years ago, but it was never signed and has never been signed to this day. The present Rules of the Library contain two clauses, giving the powers of the trustees and implying that such trustees exist, but these Rules have not been revised for some thirty years or so. Recently an old catalogue containing these Rules was unearthed, and a new set were drawn up, the two clauses implying the existence of trustees being retained. These new Rules were recently laid before a Committee meeting, and the point about the trustees was discussed, and as it was pointed out that no trust deed existed or ever had existed, except in embryo, it was decided to leave the matter in the Chairman's hands. The Chairman happily undertook to look up the constitution of the Library from the beginning and draw up a new, which will really be the first, trust deed naming three trustees. The Shanghai Library, we may mention, was started in 1849, when a list was sent round asking for support towards the formation of a Book Club, and on this slender foundation has been built up the fine Library that now exists.

In the early days of the settlement institutions which have now become of great importance were started by half a dozen people meeting together on the Bund, or at the Club, or at the dinner table; money was easily forthcoming, and as everybody knew everybody, and all were agreed on the object and on the way in which it should be carried out, there did not seem any necessity for elaborate provisions. Some of the members, if not all, carried in their heads the history of the institution, and could see that it was carried on on the lines originally intended. These old residents however are getting fewer and fewer, while the place grows larger,

and stricter definition becomes more and more necessary. Other instances might, no doubt, be readily found to add to the two mentioned yesterday and to-day.

HOW TO GET 'THE BEST' OF IT.

24th Mar.

"How to get the best of it,"—a problem that occupies the serious consideration of us all now, as it already has that of entire humanity as far back probably as the Simian age, has recently been treated by a contemporary in a short article with that very title for its heading. The paper in question propounds some decidedly original views on the subject, but we doubt whether they will commend themselves for practical use to the greater part of mankind, especially to those dwellers in the East, the end and aim of whose existence is to "make their pile" and go home as speedily as possible, and for whom a gospel of rest must for ever remain a sealed book, containing no comforting message. The writer evidently sets an unusual value on sleep, advising a minimum of ten hours, which he considers absolutely necessary for the proper recuperation of mind and body; whilst he strenuously urges that no more than four out of every twenty-four should be devoted to writing and study, and recommends that the remaining time be absolutely surrendered to rest, recreation and very deliberate eating. The impossibility of carrying out such a line of conduct by a large majority will be seen at a glance; it is essentially the programme of a man of leisure, and we question whether the mental colossi for whose especial delectation the plan is drawn up, would derive any lasting benefit by following these novel principles, even if their adoption really conduced to longevity; an affirmation, the truth of which we are strongly inclined to contest.

In the first place, before any valuable directions can be given for a royal road to such a desired goal, it is necessary to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to what can be considered the "best of it," and individual opinions would doubtless differ so widely that it would be extremely difficult to reach a general conviction. Ideas vary so enormously as to what happiness consists in; one man's meat being so truly another's poison in that vital question, the successful solving of which makes up all the joy of the human race. The immortal Teufelsdröckh condemns our united yearning after happiness as a whim entirely born of our self-conceit, and declares that our misery is only occasioned by the fact that we place our deserts too high, and therefore only account such *overplus* as there may be as happiness; grumbling bitterly because the *deficit* we regard as misery is so much larger than we fancy we deserve. He further counsels humanity in general to imagine that it deserves hanging ("as is most likely,"

he naively observes!), and then remarks that with this prospect in view, it will regard the penalty of being shot, as the greatest bliss conceivable. Even the fulfilment of every wish cannot secure absolute felicity, according to the German professor, for he declares that fresh desires are generated by the gratification of every old one, and he adds that the whole Finance Ministers, upholsterers and confectioners of modern Europe in joint-stock company could not undertake to make one shoe-black happy for more than an hour or two; the said shoe-black having "a soul quite other than his stomach, and requiring for his permanent satisfaction and saturation, simply this allotment no more and no less: *God's infinite universe altogether to himself*; therein to enjoy infinitely."

A cursory glance at the subject would make us fancy that wealth alone is the magic key by which the portal of earthly bliss may be opened, but although there is no doubt that its possession can do much towards enabling us to gratify our passion for comfort, yet even this desideratum will not procure unalloyed satisfaction for everyone. A man's notions of happiness are to a certain extent governed by his environment; and to a Red Indian accustomed to the free untrammelled existence of his native woods and prairies, the advantages of a house in Mayfair or Belgravia, and a box at the opera would seem very much overrated; whilst, on the contrary, to an individual trained from his earliest days to a life of every material luxury, the calm joys of the recluse and ascetic would probably be utterly incomprehensible. The low standard of well-being which some people attribute to the so-called Bohemian would meet with no approval from the Philistine, who would indeed regard it almost as a return to savagery, after his own highly developed condition of physical indulgence.

The old Epicurean maxim of Temperance seems to us the one golden rule, the following out of which might enable every mortal more nearly to "get the best of it" than any other recipe recommended for the same result. Unfortunately the real meaning of Epicureanism is as little understood now-a-days, as that other system of Platonic friendship, that has become identified with a peculiar form of intimacy of which poor Plato never dreamed; and numbers of people would be quite scandalised at the idea of modelling their lives on the plan of a philosopher who is generally considered to have been no better than he should be. It would no doubt be quite an awakening to them to be told that, although Epicurus declared as his unqualified opinion that Pleasure entirely constituted Happiness, and that therefore the former was to be unremittingly pursued by mankind, yet he added the wise dictum that, as happiness is not the enjoyment of the moment but of the whole life, we should all try to

equalise but not intensify it, and be firmly convinced of the necessity for moderation in all our pleasures, instead of over-working them to-day to an extent that will bring satiety to-morrow. The luxury of the Epicurean system has often been quoted, but as a matter of fact, the philosopher preached incessantly that contentment with a little was the greatest good. It is quite true that he recommended men to multiply their enjoyments in every possible way, but he also urged them to endeavour to live as simply as possible, not only as a means of thus being able to "lay by for a rainy day," but also as an enhancement to occasional pleasures which he considered would be more appreciated because of their variety. There is no doubt that the way to get the best of it is to adopt this wise course; intellectually and socially we are all far too apt to overtax our powers and underrate our advantages; and moderation and content are texts the necessity for whose application we are too fond of ignoring. The splendid optimism of Horace and Browning is unknown to most of us; and the advent of a new prophet—"a happy tempered bringer of the best out of the worst"—would indeed be an everlasting benefit to mankind at large, if he would show us how to attain absolute satisfaction; and there is little fear but that we should all have discovered a short cut to an earthly Elysium, if we could each one of us echo from our hearts the poet's words:

I find earth not grey but rosy,
Heaven not grim but fair of hue.
Do I stoop? I pluck a posy.
Do I stand and stare? All's blue!

Review.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

TENNIEL'S cartoon in *Punch* is labelled "A Stiff Job." It shows Mr. Gladstone ploughing a particularly rough bit of land with one wretched horse, labelled "Majority," and the "Grand Old Ploughman" sings:—

"Stiff job for a little 'un? Yes!
If he doesn't pull straight there'll be bother,
Must make the best of 'un, I guess.
This time, for I sha'n't get no other.
Gee up! I shall have a good try,
On that they may bet their last dollar.
It's do, poor old creak, now, or die!
But—I must keep 'un oop to the collar!"

And we know that so far the grand old ploughman has succeeded unexpectedly well in keeping his majority up to the collar, and even in increasing its strength. He has been very much helped by Lord Rosebery at the Foreign Office, and Mr. Asquith at the Home Office. Considering the furious attacks made on the government for releasing Egan and Callan, the dynamiters, it is interesting to find Mr. Balfour saying in the House, after Mr. Asquith's explanatory speech on the 9th of February: "I rose for the purpose of expressing my hearty concurrence with the speech delivered on behalf of the Government to-night by the Home Secretary, my hearty concurrence in the substance of the speech, and my great admiration of the manner of the speech." The concurrence of the leaders of the Opposition with Lord Rosebery's foreign policy—which is, indeed, a

direct continuation of Lord Salisbury's—is equally thorough.

The fury with which the Protestants, or some of them, in Ulster hate the Catholics was shown by the scene which took place in the House when Col. Sanderson called Father McFadden a "murderous ruffian," and only withdrew the expression, substituting the words "excited politician," at the request of his leader Mr. Balfour, when Mr. Gladstone had pleaded in vain. The Independent Radicals, Mr. Labouchere and others, who it was thought were by way of organising a cave, did not carry their discontent beyond what was practically not more than protest, and in nearly all, if not all, of the divisions on amendments to the Address, the government had a larger than their normal majority. Although Mr. Healy complained that the Opposition were pursuing a course of organised obstruction, as a matter of fact the subjects on which amendments were moved were of quite sufficient importance to justify the delay. The *Times* of the 8th of February says:—

Mr. Healy, who is now so indignant that the debate on the Address has not been closed at the end of a week, was not remarkable in those years for his reticence. We can understand, however, that he should be very anxious to hear nothing more either about the Meath elections or about the question of amnesty, of which Mr. Redmond has given notice. It is true that when Colonel Nolan, one of Mr. Redmond's little band, objected to the shelving of the amnesty discussion, Mr. Sexton, whose silence has been a startling phenomenon in the present Session, was put up to say, very briefly and with an evident lack of enthusiasm, that Mr. Healy did not mean anything of the kind. If Mr. Healy meant only that the debate on the Address might be brought to a close on next Friday night, we are not inclined to disagree with him, though, in that case, he expressed himself in a very clumsy way. All parties in the House are in favour of clearing the way for the introduction of the Home Rule Bill on the earliest possible day next week, and, without desiring to curtail any expression of opinion on important subjects by any section of the House, we believe the end in view may be attained without much difficulty.

While the *Daily News* of the same date says:—

Mr. Healy characteristically exaggerated the true state of the case when he said last night that the obstruction of the Address had already reached an unprecedented height. Perhaps the remark was only part of the same grim humour which led him to attack Mr. Balfour for having blocked a Bill on Monday which he had blocked himself on Thursday. But however that may be, nobody can doubt that the debate is being deliberately spun out, and will, unless the Opposition change their tactics, be made to consume as large a part of the Session as possible. Mr. Macartney let the cat of the bag by his maladroit reference to the Huddersfield election. The Tories are naturally jubilant over their success at Huddersfield, and they greeted Sir Joseph Crosland yesterday with a warmth which their opponents do not always show on similar occasions. But the only point of talking about Huddersfield on a motion which dealt entirely with the order of public business was that the return of Sir Joseph Crosland would encourage his party in an attitude of obstruction and defiance. Mr. Gladstone was yesterday mild and conciliatory in the extreme. He recognised the gravity of the practice by which discussions are prolonged and notices multiplied until the ideal of perpetual movement is almost realised and the prospect of voting the Address recedes as the Session advances.

The objections which some of the leading London papers made at the time to the grant of a charter to the British East Africa Company seem to be fully justified. The Company went up to Uganda in force, and made treaties which it had not the means to fulfil. It decided that Uganda could not be held without a railway from the coast, which will cost £5,000,000 to build, and when it is built, according to Mr. Joseph

Thomson, it will have but the most trifling traffic. It will need four or five trains a year down, and one train a month up, but the latter really only for the benefit of our garrison. That is, having built the railway, the government will have to pay the working expenses. When the railway is built, and a British garrison established at Uganda, we shall have to fight the Mahdi, for the Soudanese will be compelled by their religion to attack us. And it is doubtful if there is any trade to be done in the country, and Captain Lugard himself says: "I believe the peasantry to be averse to all European interference, for they are blindly loyal to their king and chiefs, and fear that the white men may undermine their power and prestige." But we do not like to abandon the men whom the missionaries have converted to some form of Christianity, nor the treaties which Captain Lugard made in our name, but without authority, with the chiefs, and so we appear to be drifting, against our better judgment, into the annexation of a country in the interior of Africa, which will be of no apparent use to us, but a constant drain of men and money. Sir Gerald Portal may be able to discover some way out of the dilemma, or some valid reasons for remaining there. As to his mission the *Westminster Gazette* says:—

After Lord Rosebery's answer in the House of Lords and Mr. Gladstone's explanation in the Commons about Sir Gerald Portal's mission, there is surely no more possible room for carping. Sir Gerald has double powers (1) as Ordinary Commissioner and (2) as Special Commissioner. As Ordinary Commissioner to the British sphere of influence he has authority "to make British influence felt by the natives, to maintain peace and order, to develop legitimate trade, to secure the safe circulation of traders and travellers, and generally, without undue interference with tribal government and native habits and customs, to pave the way for conferring on the natives the benefits of civilisation which, on the suppression of the evils of the Slave Trade, should accompany the revival of prosperity." As Special Commissioner he has powers defined by Lord Rosebery as follows:—"A mission to Central Africa cannot, of course, be conducted according to ordinary precedent; the infrequency and difficulty of communication may require a latitude beyond what is usual, and in entrusting to you these important duties Her Majesty's Government reckon with full confidence on your meeting with firmness and caution every occasion that may arise." Surely between them these instructions cover every conceivable case, and if they are not too precise, that is their special merit.

Among important amendments to the Address were those attacking the government for not undertaking to do more for the agricultural labourer and the working-man. While leaders rise and fall, parliamentary methods remain the same, and politicians out of office are extremely solicitous for the welfare of the lowest—and most numerous—class of voters. Whatever happens to governments, however, the labourer gains, for when the politicians get into office, they are obliged to try and carry out a few, at any rate, of the promises made when they were in opposition. The government, however, came out with some triumph from the attacks on their sincerity. Mr. Wharton's amendment was rejected by a majority of 40, Mr. Keir Hardie's by a majority of 167, and that of Mr. Jesse Collings by a majority of 82. The Opposition evidently made a tactical mistake in allowing Mr. Collings' amendment to go to a division; for the *Standard* of the 9th of February says:—

We can scarcely congratulate the Whips of the Conservative Party on the division of yesterday afternoon. Mr. Gladstone's majority in the House of Commons being at this moment less than forty, it is difficult to understand why he should have been allowed to defeat Mr. Jesse Collings' amendment by more than eighty. The Opposition number more than three hundred, yet only two hun-

dred and twenty-eight were brought up to support an amendment in which they are all deeply interested. It was a grave tactical error. Mr. Collings' amendment was one which specially called for the votes of the Unionist Party, if only in justice to themselves. As the Debate proceeded, it became more and more concentrated on the question of Parish Councils, a question on which it is pre-eminently important that the Conservative and Unionist Party should not allow themselves to be misrepresented. But the impression will now get abroad that the present House of Commons has decided, by a majority of eighty-four, that the Gladstonian Ministry have something in store for the agricultural labourer which the late government would have refused him.

While the *Daily News* of the same date is naturally jubilant. It says:—

The prophets of disaster for the government, the confident croakers about a speedy and an overwhelming catastrophe, will look rather foolish this morning. The two points on which they brought their vast intellectual resources to bear were the small Ministerial majority, which they put far below forty, and the physical weakness of Mr. Gladstone, over which they gloated with brutal stupidity. The amendment sought to declare that "no measures are announced for the relief of the agricultural labouring classes." A Parish Councils Bill is announced. Mr. Chamberlain, taking his cue from Lord Salisbury, scoffed at these bodies yesterday, and declared that they would do the labourer no good. "You might as well," he exclaimed, "offer the principle of One Man One Vote for the relief of the unemployed." Mr. Chamberlain chooses to construe a familiar political term in its narrow eleemosynary sense. But in that sense neither he nor Mr. Collings has any practical scheme to recommend. And when he asks where the Councils are to raise their rates, he at least may be reminded of the ransom that was to be levied from those that toil not, neither do they spin. There is nothing for which the bulk of the rural voters are more eager than Parish Councils, and nothing which Liberal candidates brought more prominently before them at the last General Election.

The Huddersfield election, in which the Conservative candidate, Sir Joseph Crossland, beat the Gladstonian, Mr. Woodhead, by 35 votes—the late member, Mr. Summers, having been a Gladstonian—is made a good deal of in the Unionist papers. Sir Joseph Crossland has been the unsuccessful candidate at three previous elections, and he appears to have succeeded this time owing to his opponent's refusal to be the obedient servant of the Trades Unions or to support the Eight Hours Bill. The Labour party, or some of them, voted accordingly for the Conservative candidate, another proof of the strong position that Labour is taking and the readiness to champion its cause that the new Toryism is exhibiting. We are, in fact, all Socialists now. It is of the new Toryism that the *Pall Mall* is now an organ, as the following extract shows:—

The voices of Huddersfield are eloquent in their lesson to the Government. They speak not to one party, but to both. Sir Joseph Crossland, it is clear, owes his popularity in a very large measure to his views upon the Labour question. He is known to go further than his opponent was willing to go. In a word, he has frankly recognised that the old lines of cleavage have disappeared, that the Whig and the Liberal are decadent forces, that the country is roused, and clamouring at the door of St. Stephen's for the practical reforms which the indolence and indifference of a generation have denied it. This is an old story with us, but it is not so familiar that it will not bear repeating. We should like to hear it told through the length and breadth of the land. It is the duty of the Government (any Government; this or another—what are the odds?) to undertake large measures of generous legislation. And these measures must be practical: Home Rule, Franchise, Registration are pretty topics enough to talk about, but of what earthly use can they be towards the filling of hollow stomachs and empty pockets? There is, Heaven knows, enough to be done. We can't afford to wait. In the town there are

industrial problems by the gross; in the country there is the condition of agriculture. There are questions of local Government; and at the back of all there is the great Imperial problem of federation.

The chief European news—beyond the sentence on M. de Lesseps, to which we refer in another column—is the *rapprochement* that is going on between Germany and Russia. The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

Official and private accounts received here from St. Petersburg leave no doubt as to the marked improvement that has taken place in the general situation. The visit of the Czar-witch to Vienna and Berlin was but the outward and visible sanction of the actual *rapprochement* which has been effected between the three Imperial Powers. The danger of war has thus been reduced to a *minimum*—in fact, it may confidently be stated that for the last ten years at least there has never been less chance of a conflict between any of the great Powers. Both in political and military circles here the utmost confidence is manifested as to the future. The eventuality which has hitherto alarmed the peace-abiding Powers has been the prospect of a complete understanding between Russia and France. According to the best-informed authorities, no such understanding exists, and all apprehension of its being brought about has now subsided.

In its first leading article the *St. James's* gives the following account of M. Cavaignac, "the latest 'Man of the Hour' " in France:—

This week a new man is on the stage. A few days ago how many people in England (or, for that matter, in France) had heard of M. Cavaignac? He had been Minister of Marine; but *Anciens Ministres* in France are too common to be conspicuous. His record, so far as it was known, was good. He lives under the *magnum nominis umbra* which, in Republican France, helps a man quite as much as it does in less democratic countries. M. Carnot owes a good deal to his name. M. Cavaignac is the son of the high-minded and honourable soldier politician who was Louis Napoleon's and Lamartine's rival in the contest for the Presidency of the Republic in 1848. Born with the Anti-Napoleonic tradition, M. Cavaignac distinguished himself when at College by declining to receive a prize from the hands of the Prince Imperial. In the Chamber of Deputies, which he entered in 1882, he has had a respectable career; and a year and a half ago he was Minister of Marine, and resigned office because he would not (at the instance of M. Clémenceau) place the naval forces under the military commanders in the Dahomey operations. The Chamber supported M. Clémenceau; but M. Cavaignac would not yield and had to go.

Those who know the Thames between Kew and Kingston will be amused by the picture of the old *Maria Wood*, which was built in 1817. The London Corporation are to take jaunts in her no longer; but she will still be available for private picnic parties.

The *Pall Mall's* frontispiece is portentous. It is supposed to represent Mr. Irving as Becket: if it is right, Becket must have been over seven feet in height, and had the face of a malignant demon. The full-page drawing of Mr. Gladstone in the picture labelled "The Coming Storm" is very good. In some of the smaller illustrations to "Becket," Queen Eleanor and Fair Rosamond are contrasted as the dwarf and the giant respectively. Mr. P. W. Steer's sketch of the Palace at Westminster at night is very effective, and so is the full-page sketch of Yvette Guilbert. Altogether it is a very readable number.

The *Economist* returns to its statement that the government cannot hope to get any of its lesser reforms through the House until Home Rule is disposed of. "You cannot," it says, "begin to take a turnip's nest, and then adjourn to hoe potatoes. When once you have begun, you must go on either till the nest is taken or till you are driven off the ground." Its second article on "The French Bill against

Slandering Savings Banks" is a demonstration of the dangerous condition in which the Republic stands at present. It is well worth reading, but we cannot make an adequate quotation from it. Bimetallists will be eager to answer the article on the Brussels Conference. There is another very interesting article on Fire Insurance Companies, showing how small a proportion their net revenue bears to their premium income, owing to the extra commissions now paid by Tariff offices which have cut themselves off from the ordinary means of competition. There is no mitigation in the *Saturday's* opposition to Mr. Gladstone. The *Spectator* considers the stuffing of the Queen's Speech with promises that cannot be carried out to be neither statesmanship nor even good Parliamentary tactics, but all governments do it. It writes in a most laudatory strain of Mr. Goschen as a financier; and considers Mr. Blaine's career "in the highest sense creditable to the people of the United States."

Outports.

CHEFOO.

FROM A CORRESPONDENCE.

Now that winter seems to be gone, though we sometimes get snow in April, it is difficult to recall the dreary days of January and February and we leave the enjoyment of arctic pleasures to the endurance of Dr. Nansen and his courageous followers; the season now is very agreeable and in a few weeks the fruit blossoms will be at their best. Newchwang is some days from opening and is presumably yet in the full tide of its histrionic and other gaieties of which we often read in your issues. Large numbers of Chinese are leaving Shantung for Manchuria owing to severe agricultural depression and no less than about 2,300 souls availed of the small steamers *Kwangchi* and *Peiping* to travel to Port Arthur a few days ago. The journey of course is only some 60 miles, but for good solid overcrowding this would be difficult to beat. It is stated that we are soon to see a steam launch at work in the harbour and adjacent waters; the desirability of this is often very manifest when our local breezes handicap and delay cargo-boat and other traffic from no other cause than the absence of steam assistance. As it is rumoured that the launch is of fair size we may be able to emulate the "Other Brighton" and offer an hour or two of agony in the shape of short cruises to the Bluff and lighthouse and so on. Who does not remember "Fred. Collins" and his *Skylark* on the Sussex coast? The Newman property fails to secure a purchaser but as matrimony is claiming the young proprietress it is likely that the hotel will, under the guidance and advice of the surviving trustee, pass into other management this summer and with its already numerous engagements a good season is anticipated. A football match under Association rules took place on Saturday between the School and Settlement, the latter having the effective services of two marine engineers. The game resulted in a draw, neither side scoring. Some of the Settlement team appeared to possess a strong yearning to play the Rugby game and the inevitable cry of "hands" was often palpably justifiable.

21st March.

TO OVERCOME WEAKNESS.—Pepper's Quinine and Iron Tonic gives New Life, Appetite, Health, Strength, Energy. Cures Neuralgia, Indigestion, Nerve Debility. Specially useful in hot, depressing climates or malarious districts. Everyone should keep up strength by taking Pepper's Quinine, the world-known English Tonic. Bottles everywhere. (1)

CHENTU.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

A SZECHUAN WINTER.

The wise man must have had some experience of such climate as we boast of in Szechuan before he penned those beautiful words found in the 11th chap. of Ecclesiastes: "Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun." In no part of the world is light scarcer or sweeter than here from October to March, and gleams of joy run through all hearts when "ruddy Phœbus" deigns to brighten up a stray morning. A winter in Szechuan needs to be experienced to be appreciated. Long in October an impalpable hazy cloud overspreads the never too blue sky, thickens, condenses, breaks, and precipitates a woolly and wet fleece that sticks like glue. By a merciful arrangement there is an occasional dissolving, and stars and moon glint bashfully in a semi-pellucid atmosphere. Cloud-land would have been a far more appropriate name for the province than the one given. There has not been a wet rain for four months, only a few flakes of snow, and very little ice. On the whole the winter has been endurable and we now look for brighter days and more warmth. One thing can be said in favour of the climate, we are not subject to cold or hot winds. There is seldom more than a gentle zephyr.

NOT SO BAD.

Chentu has its attractions, even for a foreigner. We have one of the best city walls in China, and the surface very wide and smooth—quite as smooth as the Shanghai Bund. If one is inclined he may walk nearly the whole circuit of the city upon the wall, a distance of ten miles; then around the city are wide pleasant pathways skirting artificial rivers which converge and diverge according to prearranged plans. Unending sweeps of paddy fields are in every direction; myriads of cedar and cypress groves loom up, hiding old and famous temples. Every well-to-do farmer has a dense grove about his farm house, and it is enclosed with a mud white-washed wall. The streets of Chentu are also attractive, exhibiting in profusion all the handicrafts of China and many from Europe. The people are so well disposed that a foreign dressed gentleman can go through the busiest streets without provoking more than a gentle smile, and an occasional Yangyin.

CHARACTERISTIC.

Chentu has a large and fairly well equipped arsenal. The machinery must have cost a fabulous sum, and the transport a heavy item. The genial manager took the writer all over the establishment, and made sundry remarks complimentary and otherwise upon its management. Much of the machinery is rusty, broken, and in a languishing condition. Very little is done at present except the making of caps and cartridges. I remarked to my new friend that it would be a happy day for the city when there were several railroads, to bring the machinery and such things as are needed. He looked a little facetious and said in broken English, "I think you and I will be dead then."

MISSIONS

are moving forward with long strides in some directions. The Methodist Episcopal Mission have purchased a very eligible site for future expansion near the South Gate, and the Rev. H. O. Cady is transforming the old buildings into homes, chapel, and other needed buildings. The Canadian Methodists have purchased two large sites, one out of the city for a burial ground, and the other just recently, near the North Gate, a large plot facing upon three good streets. They are at present erecting a dwelling house. The C. M. Mission under the leadership of Mr. Horsburg are parcelling out a section of

the province. One of his men has gone on to Sungan to occupy the border city where Mr. Polhill Turner had his unpleasantness last year. The place is evidently of little value except as a tentative post to watch Tibet.

ITEMS.

A Russian gentleman called upon me a few days ago. He was then waiting for money and staff of surveyors to proceed to the northern part of the province to effect a thorough survey. The gentleman had journeyed overland from Peking. An illustrated placard was taken down a few days ago from Mr. Cady's chapel door, which in point of artistic taste and chivalrous spirit, equalled any in the "gallery" collected by our Hankow friends. It was sent into the Magistrate to brighten his understanding relative to current events. He took it as a boyish joke, but nevertheless, immediately detailed four *yamen* runners to interview the tea shops and places adjacent to the chapel. The New Year has been ushered in in an orthodox fashion, and to-day affairs are settling down to their normal condition.

20th February.

CHINKIANG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Yesterday being the great day universally devoted to the worship and glorification of the great patron saint of the "distressful country," the enthusiastic countrymen of St. Patrick with their usual energy in the support of a good cause, made arrangements for the holding of a smoking concert, and this duly took place last night in the Customs Club room which had been kindly placed at the disposal of the committee. With such a President as Mr. Grimani, supported by Dr. Lynch and Mr. E. Starkey as vice-Presidents, and assisted by an organising committee consisting of Messrs. Farrell, McDowall, Martins and Landen, and with such a secretary as Mr. P. J. Crampton, there could be no thought of failure, and when the numerous guests put in an appearance at 8.30 p.m. they were delighted to see the extensive preparations which had been made for their comfort. Wonders had been done with flags, lace curtains, ribbons and pictures, amidst which the counterfeit presentment of the Saint himself, and that type of female beauty "Kathleen Mavourneen," occupied the places of honour. On taking the chair the President commented on the occasion of the gathering in the following

HUMOROUS SPEECH:—

GENTLEMEN,—I am not going to delay the enjoyment that is in store for you by boring you with a long speech, but I think that just a few words will not be out of place. (Hear, hear.) We are assembled here to-night to celebrate an occasion which is dear to the hearts of all Irishmen, and my bosom swells with pride at having been chosen to occupy the exalted position of President (Applause). We are assembled here to do honour, in a manner befitting the traditions of our race, to the hallowed memory of the pious St. Patrick, the sacredness of whose name and of all the associations which have gathered around that name, we in our infancy imbibed with our mother's milk, though a large proportion of those infants have in later years continued the process, but diluted the drink with whisky. (Laughter.) I would invite you, gentlemen, to cast your eyes on those pictures on the wall—on that small, but interesting collection which has been patriotically provided for the occasion by one of the sons of Ireland's soil now present. There, before one, benignly looking down upon us all, hangs an authentic portrait of the Saint himself—that fine old Irish gentleman who amongst his many other glorious deeds

which I need not now enumerate, converted pagan Ireland to Christianity and created an annual thirst. (Laughter and applause.) Let your eyes now wander to that next picture where you will see a representation of a type of womanhood which, I am thankful to say, is so plentiful in Ireland that it may be called national, and which embodies all the attributes that are most attractive to mankind—beauty, hand in hand with virtue—beauty of soul as well as beauty of person. You may perhaps think this a digression, but it is intimately bound up with my subject. If we let our minds drift back into the dim past—through those 15 long centuries back—to St. Patrick's own day, we shall recognise his blissful influence which has blossomed forth through successive generations and produced that beautiful character—the Irish girl! (Loud applause.) St. Patrick so identified himself with Ireland that it becomes a patriotic duty of Irishmen to join in the celebration of his festival. When I speak of patriotism I do not mean to use the word in its restricted, I might say, parochial, sense. Most of us here to-night are fellow-members of the biggest Empire that ever existed, and I hold that when one portion of this great Empire receives a benefit the other portions should rejoice as well. And it is in this spirit that you, English, Scotch, Australian, Canadian, and other gentlemen are invited here to-night to take part in the celebration of this ancient festival so that, in addition, we can be in touch with one another and feel our common loyalty to the Grand Old British Empire! (Hear, hear, and applause.) I think in this case the form of celebration adopted, namely, a smoking concert is rather a happy one. It seems to me an appropriate mode of displaying our reverence for the memory of St. Patrick, not that I mean to imply that he was addicted to the habit of smoking (Laughter). No, history is silent upon that point. But whether or no he ever indulged in the expensive enjoyment of an Havannah, or the milder fragrance of the cheap Manila, or even fell under the seductive influence of the sometimes pungent pipe, one thing is certain that the pipe has always been an emblem of peace; and I need hardly remind you that peacefulness and Irishmen are synonymous terms (Laughter). We are here to smoke the pipe of peace and with the music that is to follow, I trust we shall have sufficient harmony (Enthusiastic applause).

THE PROGRAMME.

On resuming his seat the items of the programme were proceeded with. The first and last items were orchestral and, especially the last, were highly creditable to the performers; and the piano solo by Mr. Haimovitch, and the clarinet solo by Mr. Bernard were excellent performances, the latter receiving an enthusiastic encore. The vocal items were, of course, all Irish, and were without exception sung by the executants with all the "go" so characteristic of the majority of Irish songs, and a hearty encore was in each case the reward. Mr. Crampton, the indefatigable secretary, who has already done so much for our amusement, gave as an encore song "The Viscount of Barrey Blake," and later made a humorous little speech, returning thanks to the visitors for their attendance. Mr. Landen, whose quaint, inimitable style reminded us forcibly of the Music Halls at home, gave as his encore song, "Where did you get that hat?" and "Good Bye, Harry," and also danced with Mr. Crampton an Irish jig which fairly brought down the house. At the end of the programme "God save Ireland" was sung by the company, followed by three cheers and a bumper in honour of the Saint, and after a well deserved tribute of praise to the President and those instrumental in providing us with such an excellent entertainment, the company separated. Cigars, tobacco and pipes, and a plentiful supply of refreshments, of which the cakes,

and sandwiches kindly provided by Mrs. Martinson and Mrs. Seitz formed a very important element, were done ample justice to during the evening, and it is sincerely to be hoped that although the first it is by no means the last of these pleasant entertainments.

Appended is the programme, which is printed in green with a shamrock for device:—

PROGRAMME.

- 1.—Overture—Fantasia on Irish
Airs Orchestra.
Specially arranged for the occasion by
Monsieur Bernard.
- 2.—Song—"The Harp and
Shamrock of Ireland"..... P. J. Crampton.
- 3.—Song—"Fine old Irish
Gentleman" T. W. Lammert.
- 4.—Song—"The hat me father
wore" J. Landen.
- 5.—Song—"The Green Little
Shamrock" P. J. Crampton.
- 6.—Piano Solo—"Variations
on Irish Airs" D. Haimovitch.
- 7.—Recitation—"Shamus O'
Brien" P. J. Crampton.
- 8.—Song—"Mr. Michael
Murphy" J. Landen.
- 9.—Clarinet Solo—"The
Last Rose of Summer"..... E. Bernard.
- 10.—Song—"The Minstrel
Boy" T. W. Lammert.
- 11.—Song—"St. Patrick's
Day Hat" P. J. Crampton.
- 12.—Song—"Pat O'Hara"..... J. Landen.
- 13.—Finale—Moore's Irish
Melodies Orchestra.
- 14.—GOD SAVE IRELAND.

18th March.

NANKING.

A REBELLION INCIDENT.

In my former correspondence I wrote you of the march of the "ever victorious" army through the streets of Nanking. I made mention of eight characters dressed as foreigners representing General Gordon and others. Since writing the above your correspondent has been permitted an interview with one of the officials in charge of the parade. I learn through him that the eight foreigners referred to above did not represent General Gordon and others with him, but represented the eight rebel Generals that surrendered to Gordon on the condition that they had their liberty, this being sanctioned by Li Hung-chang. They were afterwards most brutally

MURDERED

by his order. The official said that Li Hung-chang promised they should not be executed as criminals, but made no promise that their lives would not be required as a penalty for taking up arms as leaders in a rebellion against the government. He further stated that H.F. Li provided a feast for these rebel Generals, and while they were feasting and drinking, at a given signal, they were dashed upon from behind and murdered.

AGAIN.

15th March.

Holloway's Pills.—The Greatest Wonder of Modern Times.—They correct bile, prevent flatulency, cleanse the liver, and purify the system, renovate the debilitated, strengthen the stomach, increase the appetite, invigorate the nerves, promote health, and reinstate the weak to an ardour of feeling never before expected. The sale of these Pills throughout the globe astonishes everybody, convincing the most sceptical that there is no medicine equal to Holloway's Pills for removing the complaints which are incidental to the human race. They are indeed a blessing to the afflicted and a boon to those who suffer from disorder, internal or external. Thousands of persons have testified that by their use alone they have been restored to health after other remedies had proved unsuccessful.

NEWCHWANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SPORT.

I have just time to send you the programme of our Athletic Sports which came off yesterday with flying colours.

THE WEATHER.

Geese and duck have arrived, and I suppose now the weather will be getting milder, but the ice on the river is still strong enough for cart traffic. A few days' good thaw, however, would soon make it unsafe.

BUSINESS.

No business yet to speak of, but produce keeps high, and so does silver as compared to the tiao note, the currency of the port, which it must not be forgotten is copper cash, not sterling—still it shows that silver has as good a purchasing power as when three taels were calculated to be the value of a sovereign, and when the owner of Tls. 30,000 was a £10,000 man, whereas now he would require over Tls. 50,000 for the same amount of sterling.

8th March.

Y.R.C. ATHLETIC SPORTS. MARCH 1893.

Starter	T. L. BULLOCK, Esq.
Judge	H. E. BUSH, Esq.
FLAT RACE—100 yards—	
W. H. Campbell	1
F. Tandberg	2
W. Lister	3
THROWING THE CRICKET BALL—	
W. Lister (82½ yds.)	1
W. H. Campbell	2
LONG JUMP—	
F. Tandberg (15 ft.)	1
W. H. Campbell (14 ft. 11 in.)	2
HANDICAP RACE—300 yards—	
W. H. Campbell (scratch)	1
A. Smith (24 yds.)	2
F. Tandberg (4 yds.)	3
THROWING THE HAMMER—	
H. A. Bush (56½ ft.)	1
F. Tandberg (54 ft.)	2
HURDLE RACE—120 yards—	
W. Lister	1
F. Tandberg	2
HIGH JUMP—	
H. A. Bush (4 ft. 3 in.)	1
W. H. Campbell	2
FLAT RACE—1 mile—	
C. Farmer	1
A. Smith	2
Won in a walk.	
POTATO RACE—	
W. H. Campbell	1
C. Farmer	2
BOYS' HANDICAP RACE—100 yards—	
W. Wilkins (30 yds.)	1
G. Farmer (12 yds.)	2
P. Farmer (18 yds.)	3
Run and won in very good style.	
MENAGERIE RACE—	
W. Lister's Goose	1
F. Tandberg's Turkey	2
FLAT RACE—½ mile Handicap—	
W. Lister (30 yds.)	1
F. W. Maze (40 yds.)	2
TUG OF WAR for a purse of \$10—	
Won by preponderance of weight and skill.	
DONKEY RACE—	
W. H. Campbell's donkey ridden by Mr. Leach (came in last)	1
F. Tandberg's donkey ridden by Mr. G. G. Thøgersen	2
Other donkeys went home without passing the post.	
ROWLANDS' KALYDOR.—A soothing cooling, emollient milk for the skin. It prevents and removes freckles, tan, sunburn, redness and roughness of the skin, soothes and heals stings of insects, eczema, prickly heat, and all irritations, produces soft fair skin and a lovely delicate complexion. It is warranted free from any lead or mineral ingredients, and is perfectly harmless to the most delicate skin. Bottles 2s. 3d. and 4s. 6d. Ask for ROWLANDS' KALYDOR, of 20, Hatton Garden, London.	

2b

PAOTING FU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAPITAL WEATHER.

The topic of the weather seems to be even more essential for outport correspondence than for conversation, but if ever there were a time when this apparent necessity were justified, it is the present winter. The entire season has been a succession of unclouded brilliant days, with little wind, less snow and no rain. Hardly a day this year when tennis has been out of the question or rendered disagreeable by inclement weather. North China has enough unpleasant features, in all conscience, but when it chooses to exert itself in the meteorological line it can produce an article of which the Riviera would not be ashamed.

THE RIVER.

In spite of warm sunshine, the river has opened reluctantly, and in the end had to be forced open before its time by order of the Paoting *Nieht'ai*. He had occasion to go down to Tientsin on important business, and finding his way blocked by ice on the lakes, telegraphed ahead to have gangs of men sent out from the neighbouring cities to cut a passage. This was promptly done, and we had the pleasure of following modestly in his wake through the narrow channel thus prepared. The condition of the flooded country has much improved since last autumn. On the upper river, the towns and villages are still surrounded by water with not a foot of cultivable ground outside the little eminence on which the houses stand. Farther down, however, the water has subsided far enough to admit of ploughing and the people are looking forward to an excellent year, which may, or may not, be given to them.

13th March.

SAN FRANCISCO.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

The great talk on the streets the last few days, the main discussion in the papers, and the speculation of the politicians, is the Hawaiian question. The final settlement will affect the interests of foreign residents in China, and be in due time a new complication for the Chinese Government, especially if the Islands be linked to the United States. The Cabinet is divided between the policy of the United States Government assuming an immediate protectorate over the Islands, with a possible annexation in the future, and the policy of assuming immediate control by annexation. The action at Washington will be largely guided by the spirit of the Pacific coast, as this forms the next-door neighbour to the Islands, and being so guided or influenced the whole trend is to some connection of the Islands with the States, rather than the more distant Governments of England or Germany. It seems a little strange to see the almost unanimous enthusiasm of the Pacific Coast in favour of this move, being utterly unconscious of the probable difficulties which will arise from establishing some proper relation with the many Chinese who are living in the Islands, have married, bought property, and become to all intents and purposes citizens of the land. Will the same policy of exclusion be practised there? And what, too, about the Japs?

THE CHINESE QUESTION

is being still left "in the fog" and no one knows when it will come out into clear light. The Chinese still refuse to register and take out their certificates or even get their three photographs taken—by request of the U.S.A. The Pacific Coast, and especially San Francisco, still defiantly demands the speedy exportation of the Chinese labourer back to China

next May, if he has failed to conform to the regulations of Congress as made last year without any decent discussion. Both sides find themselves in a very puzzling kind of a predicament, and no influential "go-between." For any one who has deprecated the prejudices of the Chinese in their intercourse with foreigners, it is a greater disgust to see the real, living prejudices of the San Francisco masses. The papers every one of them—except a few unimportant religious newspapers—pander to the general feeling and help it on. There is no willingness, except on the part of a few daring church-going people and the ministers, to speak out for greater justice or at least a fuller discussion of the very delicate question. The leading Senator from this section, Senator Stanford, is well known to be in favour of utilising the Chinese labourers, and in fact does so all the time, and yet when he goes to Washington, he votes with the rest for passing laws aiming at the restriction and even expulsion of these same labourers. There are at this time up country a great lack of labourers to carry on the agricultural and other speculations, the price for European workman and tillers of the soil being too large to pay "the spec." The next few months will disclose odd outcomes to the much-boasted liberty which only America has claimed to possess on all the round sphere of this earth. No one knows whether the law passed last year is constitutional or not, and there is little chance to have it decided by the Supreme Court before the hard features will go into force. The Supreme Court of the United States will likely adjourn before next May, and yet next May is the limit of the time for allowing the Chinese to take out their certificates. Such is the complication which this great Republic will soon assume, and what next?

AND JAPANESE.

It also seems quite likely that the Japanese labourers will be treated much like the Chinese labourers, and the impression on the self-assertive, self-conceited people of Japan, or rather we should say the Japanese officials, will not be favourable to the friendly relations of the two countries. Up to the present the United States have been looked upon by Japan as a true friend and a dear neighbour but when the rebuff comes there will be a speedy reaction, and the past friend will be transformed into a much hated foe. The last two Ministers to Japan have been from the Pacific Coast, and though no serious collision has come, the friendliness certainly could hardly be as deep as with the other Ministers in previous years. Already the Japanese Imperial authorities have issued orders to their provincial officers to forbid the people from emigrating to other countries, and so far, so good. But any day there may come a sudden agitation—if arbitrary hasty action can be called agitation—to keep out all Orientals, and then for a few hundreds of the inoffensive Japs in the States we may see a break between the two Governments. Alas, alas! where is the mighty statesman, afraid of no man, and yet able to command conviction to the broad principles of modern law and international intercourse?

FROM CHINA.

The steamer *China* arrived outside of the Bay and anchored just as the last day of January was closing, and then steamed up to dock early on Wednesday, the 1st of the February. There were only some 21 European cabin passengers, and very few from China. We notice in the list Mr. Von Loeher, the former German Vice-Consul at Shanghai, who is promoted to full Consularship at Valparaiso, also Mr. John Schmidt, Mr. and Mrs. Seaman and Mrs. Yates, all of Shanghai. There was also a Mr. G. Reid from somewhere in China, and a few Russians who have been employed on the Russian railway in Siberia, and now on their way home *via* America. The

steamer came across the Pacific in quick time, leaving Yokohama on 17th Jan. She reported two heavy gales, one of which the land-lovers would call a cyclone, the steamer facing the south-west for nearly an hour during the storm without steaming ahead. Also the last day before reaching harbour, she had a rough sea with heavy winds with cold blasts coming sweeping down the north coast.

THE "CITY OF PEKING."

Every day up to writing the people have been anxiously looking for the steamer *City of Peking*, which left Yokohama nine days before the *China* and reached here just to-day, nearly six days after the *China* arrived, or some twenty-nine days in all. There has been considerably anxiety about the vessel, for she is an old steamer, the largest American built steamer afloat. There is on board the very popular Mexican Minister to Japan with his equally popular American wife.

6th February.

THE UNITED STATES

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

OF INTEREST TO MISSIONARIES.

The recent irregularities in your correspondence from Washington are due to the fact that the Washington office of the *N. C. Herald* has been closed during the absence of your correspondent, who is just now engaged upon World's Fair business. We have had very severe winter weather during the past month. The cold snap came rather suddenly and there were serious anticipations of a coal famine in Boston, New York, Washington, and in other cities. Had the intense cold continued a few days longer New York and Chicago would have suffered very seriously, for the coal dealers reported only five days' supply on hand, and transportation was interrupted on all the great lines. The cold wave has been followed by a thaw to the great relief of the suffering poor. I cannot avoid the thought of how much better it would be to devote the millions of dollars spent on foreign missions to the relief of suffering among our own people at home. The tales of suffering from cold and starvation which the recent cold spell has brought to public notice, even in this city alone, are enough to make one impatient and indignant that our good people should so freely send their charitable contributions to distant heathens, when they could do so much more good with much less expense at home. We have a good system of organised charities, but it is a pity that we cannot stop the outflow of money to foreign missions, in part at least, and direct the stream into the treasuries of associations devoted to the direct relief of suffering humanity.

MR. BLAINE.

We have to record at last the death of one of the great leaders in American statesmanship, the Hon. James Gillespie Blaine. He has been in public life for nearly forty years and bears a record of incessant activity and unusual foresight and ability which have greatly influenced the affairs of the nation. His name will always be associated with the policy of reciprocity which has already borne good fruit in the development of trade with South American States. He was opposed to the McKinley Bill, and was not in perfect accord with President Harrison's course in the Chilean affairs, favouring a more moderate policy. Owing to these differences of opinion and to the persistence of some of his friends in urging his nomination for the presidency, Mr. Blaine withdrew from the Cabinet, and it is said, that since the time when he wrote his memorable letter of resignation on the 4th of June, he did not again enter the portals of the State Department. President Harrison issued a proclamation

enulogising the character of the departed statesman and ordering all government executive departments to be closed on the day of the funeral.

CONGRESS.

The present indications are that there will be an extra Session of Congress, or rather an early session, soon after Mr. Cleveland's inauguration. Either there must be such a Session or else certain payments and expenditures must be postponed until the regular Fall Session, in order to avoid a deficiency in the Treasury. Through no fault of its own the Democratic party has to meet some very difficult problems in the near future. It is perhaps in the position of Mr. Meek a very small man who had a wife of average size. A friend asked: "How came you to marry such a big woman?" "Well, er-she didn't seem so big before marriage."

SILVER.

It does not yet clearly appear that the present Congress will stop purchases of silver. If not, this will be another very good reason for an early Session, for although it is said by the Republicans that the Democrats are not good financiers, I believe they are wise enough to recognise the necessity of stopping our extravagant silver purchases as soon as possible.

PENSION REFORM

is certainly progressing. None of the Bills now before Congress treating of the subject may pass, but the country is demanding relief from the enormous payments to undeserving pensioners and it will not be long before some radical changes in the pension-roll will be made. The amendments recently offered by Representative O'Neil of Massachusetts are worthy of approval, but it is doubtful if the present Congress will adopt them. The purport of them is to forbid payments to men who are not suffering from wounds received in the service and who enjoy a good income, and that women who married veterans after the war shall not enjoy widows' pensions. The present pension system is a most gigantic imposition upon the American people.

THE WHISKY TAX.

It is generally supposed that one of the great sources of revenue next year will be the increased tax on whisky. It is proposed to increase it from 90 cents to \$1.25 per gallon. But the Bill will not pass at this Session of Congress and the distillers are accumulating whisky on a large scale and in such a manner as will make it very difficult indeed to apply the tax to it. Already, it is said, there are 200,000,000 gallons in the country, of which 130,000,000 are in bond. If all this whisky in bond is withdrawn and the present tax paid, the government would derive no increased revenue from whisky for two years, because the distillers would run off the stock on hand and manufacture no new whisky during that time, or until the supply is exhausted. The tax ought to be increased now if at all, and the distillers would not seriously object, if at the same time, all illicit stills and "moonshiners" could be shut down. But with an increased tax the temptation to run stills on the quiet becomes greater, and a clear profit of a dollar a gallon is no small item in the business. The famous Whisky Trust pool has collapsed, and the wildest excitement prevailed on the New York Stock Exchange where whisky certificates fell off seventeen points in two days, making a break of 48 points within a few months. But the general market was not seriously affected by the collapse of the whisky boom, as it might have been had there been less confidence in the financial outlook generally.

HAWAII.

The question of Hawaiian annexation is just now engaging the attention of statesmen at Washington. It is too early to predict what course this government will

pursue in the matter and it is scarcely probable that any final action will be taken by the present administration. The deposed Queen charges that she was obliged to yield to the provisional government because the U.S. Minister Stevens caused troops to be landed at Honolulu. But it does not appear that Mr. Stevens acted unwisely in any respect, and it is not the first time that U.S. forces have been called upon to preserve peace or property on the Islands. The latest news is to the effect that Minister Stevens has established a protectorate over the Island and the flag of the United States now floats over the government buildings. It is related upon what purports to be high authority, that Queen Liliuokalani has deputed Commissioners to this country, not so much in the hope of gaining the support of this government in re-establishing her authority as to obtain satisfaction and valuable consideration from the United States in return for the relinquishment of all title and claim she may have upon the throne. I would be glad to discuss this Hawaiian episode more fully, were it not that your readers will doubtless receive later news than I can give directly from the Islands.

THE FAIR.

An unusual fall of snow has caused considerable damage to the roof of the Machinery Hall of the World's Fair. It was reported that 20,000 feet of the roof had collapsed, and forthwith every available man was put to work shovelling snow from the roofs of the large buildings. The fault was not in the design or construction of the building, but the accident was due entirely to an unusual and unanticipated fall of snow. The effect of the mishap may be to delay somewhat the installation of the exhibits in that building. Visitors who wish to see the fair in perfect order would do well not to time their visits earlier than the first of June.

THE C.P.R. TRAFFIC.

The transportation of merchandise from China and Japan consigned to this country over the Canadian Pacific Railway, has interfered somewhat with the railway interests of the U.S. and the subject is receiving attention in Congress. The President has discussed the matter in a special message, and an order is to be issued to Consuls at Vancouver and Montreal to the effect that cars containing foreign merchandise destined for this country are only to be sealed by them personally. Inasmuch as it is impossible for Consuls to attend personally to the sealing of the cars, the effect of this regulation will be that foreign goods, except those originating in Canada, will be examined at the Canadian border, and as this involves unloading the cars, it is believed that it will interfere somewhat with the traffic over the C. P. R. The regulation is proper enough, for it only requires that goods coming in by the C. P. R. shall be examined at the frontier, in the same manner as when they arrive at a seaport for transportation over our own lines. Lower freight rates over the C. P. R. have given that line an advantage over railways in the States.

AMERICAN TIN.

One of the results of the McKinley law really is a tangible product. A special agent of the Treasury Department has been looking for it, and has found that during the quarter ending December 31st, 1892, the production thereof amounted to nearly twenty million pounds of tin andterne plates, besides some American sheet steel turned. It might be of interest to know just how much this tin has cost, but the figures are not before me. There are still a few persons in this country who do not believe in the McKinley system of encouraging the production of American tin, and they look for a collapse of the industry is so far as it depends upon a high tariff for its existence.

Washington, D.C., 15th February.

Peking Gazette.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

(Specially translated for the North-China Herald.)

12th January.

The Prefect of Shun T'ien reports that more than two inches of snow has fallen at Peking.

By Imperial Edict His Majesty orders that extra supplies of grain be issued to the Government Charitable Establishments of Peking. The Prefect of Shun T'ien represents that the season of bitter cold has now arrived and in view of the hardships of the poor we command that, beyond the regular supplies of grain, 400 piculs of paucified millet be issued to the Tzu Shan T'ang, and 300 piculs of the same grain to each of the two distributing stations P'u Chi T'ang and Kung Tè Lin.

DECREE.

The Censor Ch'eng Ssü-ho requests us to give orders for the proper observance of the prescribed style and forms in literary essays and for the prevention of abuses in connection with the examinations. The essays should be composed in clear and sober terms and no wild writing should be permitted. The precautions taken in the examination halls should be effective. It is highly improper that abuses such as are mentioned by the Censor, namely the exchange of papers and the personation of candidates, should exist. — Let the Board of Ceremonies at once draw attention to the prohibition of these malpractices, and let stringent proclamations be issued before each examination. These rules must not be disregarded.

Memorial from Yang Ch'ang-chün, Governor-General of Kansu and Shensi, asking for an increase in the estimates for the courier service of Kansu. He represents that the original amount allowed was Tls. 257,000 a year. The Mahomedan rebellion disorganised the service, and subsequently in 1883 a reduced amount was allotted—of Tls. 106,000 and food and fodder—which was sufficient at the time, as the military establishment supplemented the ordinary couriers, etc. But now that affairs have resumed their regular footing and new administrative districts have been formed in the West, 11; Kashgar, etc., the estimate is found to be too low, and much expense and trouble is inflicted upon the local officials, who dare not delay public despatches or neglect to furnish means of transit to travelling officials. This year the international complications on the southern borders of Kashgar have entailed a great amount of postal work, important despatches passing in great numbers.

Memorialist recommends that the amount of 135,300 taels, besides food and fodder, be allowed from the beginning of next year. The extra sum will be paid out of likin receipts.—Rescript: Let the Board concerned report.

13th January.

DECREE.

Some time since the Manchu Brigade-General of Kueihua-ch'eng (in the north of Shansi), K'uei Ying, memorialised us denouncing the Acting Prefect of Kueihua-ch'eng, Chang Hsin-t'ai, for wanton oppression of the people and construction of illegal instruments of torture. We gave orders for Chang Hsin-t'ai to be deprived of his rank and handed over to the Acting Governor of Shansi, Hu P'in-chih, for trial. Hu P'in-chih now reports that the charge of illegal taxes and extortion cannot be sustained, but with regard to the introduction of implements of torture, Chang Hsin-t'ai did make use of a three-holed cangue on one occasion as a special punishment. Hu P'in-chih is of opinion that

this cannot be considered equivalent to illegal cruelty and begs us to remit his degradation of rank and to allow him to be presented in audience by the Board of Civil Office.

His Majesty refuses to remit this punishment, as the use of the three-holed cangue was undoubtedly illegal, and continues:—

The Governor in a postscript memorial submits a request that we will instruct the Brigade-General that future cases between Mongols and Chinese must be left to the district official to settle, and that he should not take upon himself to depute officers to take part with the said official in the investigation. If the official show any partiality in the trial he should report him to the Governor, who will, if he finds him in fault, denounce him to the Throne.

We hereby command that all public business between these officials (the Manchou Brigade-General and the Chinese Governor) shall according to precedent be transacted in a friendly, upright manner in consultation. Let there be no obstinacy of opinion to the detriment of the affairs of Government.—*Let the Board concerned take note.*

14th January.

DECREE.

The Supervising Censor Hung Liang-p'ing having denounced Hsüeh Chün, Assistant Reader of the Grand Secretariat, for joining with Tu Ch'ian in certain turbulent proceedings in Peking, we deputed Hsü Tung and Hwai T'a-pu to investigate the matter. These officials now report that Hsüeh Chün has had no dealings with Tu Ch'ian and the charge is dismissed.

The suspended sub-prefect Tu Ch'ian having earned himself a nick-name and having associated with the underlings of the Board of Punishments has disgraced his cloth. Let him be immediately deprived of his rank and, as proposed, receive 60 blows with the heavy bamboo and be banished for one year. On the expiration of the period of one year let him be taken to his native place, there to be kept under strict surveillance by the local officials and not permitted to come to Peking to make trouble.

15th January.

FUNDS FOR FRONTIER DEFENCE.

The Governor of Kiangsu states that in the year 1880, when large sums of money became immediately necessary for the defence of the northern and eastern frontiers, the province of Kiangsu was required to furnish annually from its likin receipts a sum of eighty thousand taels. He is now sending to Peking mercantile bills of exchange for the second half of this year's subsidy.

CHINKIANG OPIUM DUTY.

Since the time when the additional import duty began to be levied by the Customs, it has been the rule that this duty and likin must be retained in the treasury of the Custom House which collected them till instructions arrive from the Board of Revenue as to the disposal of the money. A report of the sums collected must also be furnished to the Throne at the termination of every three months. During the third quarter of last year the receipts at Chinkiang amounted to Tls. 22,023 on account of duty, and Tls. 58,729 on account of likin. Of these two sums there remains, after the payments which have been made from them, a balance of Tls. 29,534.

16th January.

IMPERIAL GIFT TO THE POOR.

Her Majesty the Empress Dowager is aware that the excessive rains this year have caused more than ordinary distress among the poor people of the metropolitan prefecture and the rest of the province of Chihli. She is deeply moved by the thoughts of the sufferings which they must endure at the present season of severe

cold. She therefore has desired the Emperor to bestow upon them a sum of twenty thousand taels from the privy purse. In making known this Decree His Majesty commands the high authorities of the metropolis and the province to select trustworthy officers who shall visit the different localities and take means to ensure that the imperial bounty reaches those for whom it is intended, in accordance with the beneficent wishes of Her Majesty.

INSURRECTION SUPPRESSED IN KUANGTUNG.

The high authorities at Canton state that in Lienping Chou, which is part of Huichou Fu, there is a small market town called Chunghsin Hsi. In this neighbourhood there is a stream, large enough for boat traffic, and used by the country folk to water their fields. One village is inhabited by people of the name of Wu, a numerous and turbulent clan; who long made themselves a general pest, by damming up the river and exacting large sums of money from those who wished to make use of it or its water. The magistrate heard of this and forced them to re-open the channel; but they afterwards secretly stopped it again. A little while later a gentleman was killed while travelling on the high road. The assassins were arrested, and confessed that they had been bribed by some of the Wu clan to commit the murder, because the gentleman had aided the magistrate in opening the river. The magistrate sent his police to apprehend the instigators of the crime; but the people of the clan would not give them up. They had even the audacity to man an old fort, which stood within the enclosure of their village; and opening fire upon the officers, they drove them away from the place. This having been reported by the magistrate, the Governor-General took counsel with the provincial commander-in-chief and sent a body of troops under the command of a colonel to aid the magistrate in restoring order. The commanders of the expedition were instructed to arrest the principal offenders, but not to let their men enter the village unnecessarily. They were also given a proclamation sealed by the Governor-General in which a warning and an exhortation were addressed to the gentry of the locality. But the chief of the Wu family was unable to control his younger relatives, who called to their aid all the lawless characters of a neighbouring village as well as a number of regular robbers. Then, having forced the weak and the peaceable to join in the rising, they became bold enough to march out and confront the troops. The latter remained motionless until they were attacked at close quarters, when they beat off their assailants and killed some of the fiercest of them. After this check the insurgents retreated to their village, which they continued to guard, merely sending out secret parties from time to time to rob and plunder on the roads. The people of the district were moved to indignation and desired that an assault should be made upon the village. The memorialists, however, knew that the leaders in the insurrection were really but few in number; and they thought that, if an attack were made, these men might manage to escape, while the quiet and harmless folk would be terrified. They therefore determined that the troops should remain quiet and overawe the people till they gave up their arms and surrendered their leaders. At the same time they increased the number of the soldiers by some troops which they ordered up from Ch'aochow Fu. Alarmed at the magnitude of the force now arrayed against them, those who had come from other villages now began secretly to return to their homes, while those of the place itself who had joined in the affair unwillingly, took courage from the proclamations which were issued and dissuaded their friends from continuing the insurrection.

Taking advantage of this state of things, the officials and troops succeeded in arresting or securing the surrender of twenty-nine prisoners, some belonging to the place itself and some to the adjacent villages. Of these, the most important offenders, six in number, were taken to Huichou Fu for trial. The remainder having been examined and found not to have actually fought against the troops were merely flogged and then allowed to be released on bail. The arrest was further effected of five or six other men who were more or less implicated in the murder of the gentleman, as above narrated. These were reserved for trial by the magistrate. Rewards also have been issued for the apprehension of certain other offenders who have so far escaped. The village fort was built many years ago for the protection of the place; but on account of its misuse in the present instance, orders have been given for it to be rased to the ground; and the people have surrendered about two hundred fire arms which were in their possession. The river dam belonging to the Wu clan has been reduced to its original dimensions. They may maintain it as it is, but they must not increase it or impede the water-way. In closing this report the memorialists state that perfect tranquillity prevails again, and every effort will be made to discover and arrest the missing offenders.

FRONTIER DEFENCE FUNDS.

The Canton province has been required in the past year to furnish Tls. 200,000 for military expenditure on the frontiers. The Governor-General announces that he is now paying the last instalment of this amount, namely Tls. 40,000. The money has been delivered to native bankers, who have given bills of exchange for the amount. The bills have been entrusted to an officer who will proceed to Peking by sea, and who, as soon as he has cashed them, will hand the money to the Board of Revenue.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 14th March, 1893, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Macgregor, (Chairman), F. Anderson, C. Beurnmann, J. Cooper, D. C. Jansen, D. M. Moses, J. L. Scott, J. Welch, and the Secretary,

The *Summons* calling the meeting is taken as read.

The *Minutes* of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Resignation of Mr. Purdon.—Letter from Mr. Purdon is submitted placing his resignation in the hands of the Council. The members are of opinion that the resignation must be accepted and it is decided to write to Mr. Purdon expressing the regret of the Council that he should have decided on taking this step.

New Councillor.—On the suggestion of the Chairman it is then decided that Mr. Graham should be asked to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Purdon, and the different Committees are re-arranged as follows.

Works Committee.—Messrs. Macgregor, Cooper and Moses.

Watch Committee.—Messrs. Scott, Jansen and Beurnmann.

Finance Committee.—Messrs. Anderson, Welch and Graham.

New Slaughter House.—The following report by the Inspector is ordered to be published.

Shanghai, 6th March, 1893.

SIR,—I have the honour to report for the information of the Municipal Council that the abattoir in Hongkew was opened on the 1st instant. I had previously obtained the promise of the whole of the butchers to slaughter cattle there, but through some cause, not yet ascertained, they did not send anything to the slaughter-house. On the 2nd instant the Shanghai Butchery sent 23 sheep and informed me of their inability to send cattle, as the dealers refused to supply them, if the beasts were killed at the Municipal slaughter-house. Accompanied by Mr. Gale, Detective Inspector Keeling, the native manager and shroff of the Butchery, and one native detective, at Mr. Gale's request I visited the bullock hongs at Palsinoh to test the truths of the refusal to supply, and although we saw at least 150 head of cattle in the several cowsheds and offered prices far above their market value were unable to purchase one. Returning to the Shanghai Butchery at 10 p.m., Mr. Gale dispatched men into the country round Shanghai to find out if the boycott extended there and they succeeded in purchasing one bullock only, which was brought to the slaughter-house and killed on the 3rd instant. On the following day Mr. Gale sent men to Tanyang and other cattle districts and also to Chinkiang, and on Sunday, as the dealers still refused to sell to the Butchery, and knowing the short supply of beef for his customers he dispatched a houseboat to intercept all cattle coming to Shanghai by way of the Soochow Creek with the object of purchasing them. On leaving the Shanghai Butchery on the night of the 2nd I proceeded to the Central Police Station and communicated, the foregoing facts to the Captain Superintendent of Police. It was then decided to place a constable on the bridges crossing the Yangkingpang creek to prevent any beef slaughtered at Palsinoh being brought into the Settlement, and on the following morning I personally notified the butchers that they would not be allowed to bring into the market meat not killed at the Municipal slaughter-house.

Strict orders were given on the night of the 14th by Capt. McEuen to the police to prevent any description of meat being brought into the Settlement, either from Palsinoh or Hongkew, and in consequence of some being turned back, the butchers at last came to the conclusion that it was not intended to play with them.

On Sunday three of the butchers sent in cattle and sheep, and four others came to the slaughter-house for licenses promising to send in their cattle at once. The butchers who had killed at the M. C. abattoir were then supplied with passes to allow the meat killed at Palsinoh to be brought to their shops on the condition that no more cattle of any description for foreign consumption should be killed there.

I take this opportunity to report that great credit is due to Mr. Gale of the Shanghai Butchery for his efforts and assistance in breaking up the boycott.

Finally I beg to suggest that the Council apply to Capt. McEuen for 2 men to watch Palsinoh for a month at least, so that no meat from it be allowed to be brought into the Settlements. I entertain the opinion, shared by the Shanghai Butchery, that the combination is now broken up.

Perhaps I should mention that one reason for the boycott reported to me, was that the butchers threatened to decline to pay their accounts of 1892 if any cattle were sold to be killed at the Municipal slaughter-house.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. CAMERON,

Inspector of Markets.

The SECRETARY,
Municipal Council.

Volunteers—Election of Commandant.—The following letter is ordered to be published.

Shanghai, 13th March, 1893.

From the
Officer Commanding the S.M.V.C.
SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that at a general meeting of the S.M.V.C. held on Thursday, the 9th instant, Mr. Cecil Holliday was unanimously elected to the post of Commandant and as it is a position he has already filled, I beg to recommend that a Commission as Major be forthwith granted him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. A. CLARKE,

Captain S.V.A. and

Senior Captain S.M.V.C.

To JOHN MACGREGOR, Esq.

Chairman, Shanghai Municipal Council.

Decided to approve of and confirm this election, and to issue the Commission as recommended.

A Commission for Major Holliday is then signed by the Chairman and ordered to be forwarded.

Volunteers—Appointment of an Adjutant.

—Referring to the proposal submitted to the Ratepayers at the Annual Meeting, that a Committee should be appointed to prepare a scheme admitting of the appointment of a paid Adjutant to the S.M.V.C., it is decided that Majors Holliday and Morrison, Captain Commandant Lanning and the following three Members of Council, Messrs. Macgregor, Scott, and Jansen, should form the Committee.

New Road at Wayside.—The following letter is submitted and ordered to be published:—

The Bund,

Shanghai, 3rd March, 1893.

SIR,—In accordance with arrangements made with the Council's Surveyor, Mr. C. Mayne, we beg to hand you herewith a plan of a 25 foot road between Lots 1,123, 1,250 and 1,986 at Wayside, Hongkew, which the owners of the land have agreed to surrender free to public use.

As we understand that this has been approved of in principle we shall be obliged if you will kindly have the necessary deeds of surrender prepared for signature.

We are Sir,

Your obedient servants,

MORRISON & GRATTON.

R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,

Secretary, Shanghai Municipal Council.

Decided to agree to this arrangement.

Works Matters.—The following report by the Engineer, giving particulars of the Works completed during February, and of those now in progress, is submitted and ordered to be published:—

The following works have been completed.—
Buildings.—Small repairs have been made to the Beggars' Lock-up & Married Sergeants' quarters, Louza Station.

Drainage.—Laying 9" pipe drain in the Whangpoo Road, west of Astor Road.

Laying 12" & 9" pipe drains in the North Honan Road, north of Boone Road, and in line with Purdon Road.

Gully connections have been relaid at junctions of Peking and Fuhkien Roads; Foochow Road and Bund; and east side of Bund, near Canton Road.

The drain-mouths and manholes in the English and Hongkew Settlements have been cleaned.

New Public Garden.—Dwarf iron fencing has been placed round grass plots in the New Public Garden.

Pavements.—Composite pavement has been laid to the footpath on the north side of the Whangpoo Road, between Broadway and Astor Road.

Trees.—Trees have been planted in the Broadway, Yangtze-poo, Sinza, and Bubbling Well Roads.

Chip-paving has been relaid in the Shantung Road, between Canton and Sungkiang Roads; and to Whangpoo Road footpath, north side, between Broadway and Astor Road.

Repairing chip-paving in the Peking Road, between Chekiang and Honan Roads; Fuhkien Road, between Foochow and Sungkiang Roads, and Sungkiang Road, between Fuhkien and Hoopoh Roads.

Curb and Channel.—Laying concrete curb and channel in the Dent Road extension.

Relaying curb and channel in the Whangpoo Road, between Broadway and Astor Road.

Metalling.—Boone Road, between Woosung and Miller Roads; and Shantung Road, between Foochow and Canton Roads.

The works in progress are:—

Buildings.—Building a New Police Station for the Central District, English Settlement. Building Public Market Sheds in Hongkew, on Lot 1967 B.C.

Bridges.—Constructing a bridge across the Nan-chuen-hong-pang to connect the Purdon and North Honan Roads.

Repairing Seward Road bridge.

Buildings.—A Malaya hardwood bunding is being constructed to the Fearon Road extension, between Hanbury and Yu-hang Roads.

Cemeteries.—Extending wooden fence, New Cemetery.

Drainage.—Laying 1.6 x 1.9 concrete sewer in the Ningpo Road between Kiangse and Szechuen Roads.

Building gullies in the North Honan Road.

Street Pavements.—Laying composite pavement in the Seward Road.

Curb and Channel.—Laying concrete curb and channel in the Hanbury Road.

Roads.—Bricking the New Market Road; and North Honan Road near Boone Road.

Repairing.—Gen'rally repairing the various roads in and outside the Settlements.

Road Materials.—During the past month the Contractor has delivered 3,601 tons of road materials.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The following reports are submitted and ordered to be published with the foregoing Minutes:—

Small Pox.—Memorandum VIII.

20th March, 1893,

Chinese.—Since the 14th March, the date of my last memorandum, the registrars report seven fresh cases of Small-pox in Hongkew viz: six in district A, and one in district B. They also report six deaths, all in district A. In the English Settlement no fresh cases, and no deaths, have been reported.

Foreigners.—Since the 14th inst. no fresh cases have been admitted to the General Hospital, and there have been no deaths; two patients, now convalescent, remain in Hospital. I have heard of no fresh cases treated in private houses.

EDWARD HENDERSON,
Health Officer.

The CHAIRMAN
Municipal Council.

Police.—Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Municipal Police during the week ending the 18th of March, 1893.

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Breach of Municipal Regulations	3
Burglary	3
Gambling	11
Larceny from persons	4
" " dwellings, &c.	28
" " by servants	1
Miscellaneous cases	55
'Riesha Licences suspended	795
Wheelbarrow Licences suspended	50
Hand cart "	6
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers....	315

Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police

Chinese dead bodies found in streets... 3

Stray dogs captured

J. P. MCEUEN,
Captain Superintendent, S.M.P.

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SHANGHAI SUMATRA TOBACCO COMPANY.

On Thursday afternoon, the 16th inst., the annual general meeting of the shareholders in this Company was held at the offices of the General Agent, Mr. George McBain, who presided. There were present Messrs. R. M. Campbell (Director) F. B. Aubert, W. B. Buyers, C. A. L. Dunn, R. Francis, J. Findlay, P. V. Grant, H. W. Simpson, H. Osborne, J. Prentice, J. S. Nazer, J. A. Sullivan, and E. Major, representing 461 shares.

The Chairman said the accounts were made up in the usual form, and on that occasion he did not think there was much to tell the shareholders. The Directors had tried to give in a few words the exact position of the Company and its prospects. They would observe last year they only planted 320 fields, they had a very satisfactory output of 2,540 piculs, and the Manager said that the crop of tobacco was of very good quality, and looking to the great reduction there had been in the production of Sumatra he thought they might expect to get a good round figure for the crop this year. Last year was not as productive as they could have wished, but still the Manager said the tobacco was good. It was not perhaps as good as they could have wished, but it gave a profit of Tls. 14,000 which would make a good percentage on their capital. He (the Chairman) telegraphed to the Manager the other day as to how things looked at present, so that he might be able to give the shareholders the latest information, and the Manager had replied "There is a very favourable change in the market. Both estates present crop good quality. Next crop our prospects are very favourable." There had been a great flood in the Company's district a few weeks ago, but fortunately no injury was done to the estate. The shareholders would observe the Directors did not propose to distribute the profits immediately. They had been very short of funds ever since the commencement and they must not now do anything to hamper the working of the Company, and he thought the shareholders would agree with him that it would not be wise to distribute anything under the circumstances just now. The crop had been shipped and the Manager had been drawing upon them for the last two months and had remitted the money to pay for the drafts. He (the Chairman) thought about the end of May they might be able to distribute some money amongst the shareholders without interfering with the Company's financial position. About that time they hoped to get news of the first sales of the crop.

A discussion followed in which Messrs. Dunn, Major, Francis, Aubert and Findlay, took part.

The Chairman in reply said telegrams were necessarily an expensive item but if anything could be done in the way of devising a new code he would be only too glad. The reason why the dividend was recommended in the report in the way it was, was because the Directors wished to be able to pay it in May, when funds would be available without having to call the shareholders together again. He explained certain items in the accounts and stated that there were some 700 Chinamen, 150 to 200 Javanese men and some 100 Javanese women employed on the estate. The property was only some seven miles from the Shanghai Langkat Company's possessions, so that it was quite possible oil existed. Surface traces had, however, not been found, although there was some water which seemed to have a sulphurous smell.

Mr. Aubert then proposed, Mr. Findlay seconded; and it was agreed:

That the report and accounts as presented to the meeting be adopted and passed.

Mr. W. B. Buyers proposed:

That the profit on the working account for 1891 amounting to \$20,021.93 be disposed of in

the manner recommended by the Directors, viz., That a dividend of \$13.40 on each old share and \$6.25 on each new share be distributed at such time as may suit the finances of the Company, thus absorbing \$12,710 and that the balance of \$7,311.93 be carried to reserve.

Mr. P. V. Grant seconded and the motion was carried *unem. con.*

The Chairman said that coming to the next resolution he must express the regret of Company at the loss of their good friend Mr. Maitland. Mr. Maitland was succeeded by Mr. Wood, who had since retired.

It was proposed by Mr. Osborne and seconded by Mr. J. Prentice:

That Messrs. H. J. Such, R. M. Campbell and Geo. McBain be elected Directors for the ensuing year.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Francis, Mr. H. J. Limby was then re-elected auditor for the ensuing year, and the Chairman announced that that concluded the business of the meeting.

Mr. E. Major, in proposing a vote of thanks to the General Agent, said he was sure the meeting would admit that Mr. McBain had taken extreme trouble in looking after the affairs of the Company, and be deserved every credit for what he had done (applause).

The Chairman briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings terminated.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders of the Company a statement of accounts and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1892.

The Sumatra crop of tobacco for 1891 reached the heavy total of 206,000 bales, consequently the markets in Europe continued in much the same depressed and fickle state throughout 1892 as in the previous year. Notwithstanding these unfavourable conditions the Company's sales have, as shown below, resulted profitably.

The Company's crop for 1891 consisted of 1,900 bales, weighing in the market, with all trade allowances, 2,270 piculs, being the yield from 420 fields. On referring to the accompanying accounts it will be seen that the shipments realised an average price of G. 1.26½ per ½ kilo. The result is a net profit of Sh. Tls. 14,616.01 or \$20,021.93 which the Directors think may be considered fairly good under the circumstances, being equivalent to say 19 per cent. on the Company's capital employed during the year.

Local custom in Sumatra makes the planters' year open on the 1st November, which system is necessarily adopted by this Company. Accordingly, as the new capital dates from the 15th March following, the profit on this crop is apportioned between the two classes of shares thus:—

650 old shares = \$65,000 for 12 months receive credit for	\$12,394.53
640 new shares = \$64,000 for 7½ months receive credit for	\$ 7,627.40
	\$20,021.93

To equalise accounts the Directors recommend the declaration of the following dividends:—

On each old share	\$13.40 = \$8,710.00
On each new share (at 10% per an)	\$6.25 = 4,000.00
	\$12,710.00

leaving the sum of \$7,311.93 to be carried to Reserve as a *pro rata* contribution from the two classes of shares which will hereafter participate equally in the earnings of the Company.

During the year debts amounting to Tls. 37,000 or over \$50,000 which appeared in the last balance sheet have been liquidated, and as these repayments together with the outlay involved in the cultivation and general preparation of the 1892 and 1893 crops have absorbed all the Company's available funds for the time being, the above dividends, if approved of by the shareholders, will be

distributed so soon as the Company's finances will permit, probably about the end of May next.

Crop 1892 is credited in the fermenting sheds with 2,541 piculs from 320 fields, a considerably higher average than in the previous year.

The Manager is satisfied with the quality of the leaf and this circumstance coupled with a greatly reduced production in Sumatra, the entire crop being estimated at only 130,000 bales, gives the Directors every confidence in anticipating that the year's operations will prove a financial success.

Crop 1893.—The usual preparations are in progress for the cultivation of 370 fields. The Manager reports very favourably on the soil and prospects generally. It is also encouraging to be able to add that the Sumatra crop is expected to be about the same in quantity as that of 1892.

Directors.—It is with very deep regret that the Directors have to record the removal by death of their valued colleague Mr. John Maitland. That gentleman was succeeded by Mr. Thomas Wood who retired last month. Mr. R. M. Campbell has consented to occupy the seat thus made vacant, subject to the approval of his London Office.

The present Board retire in accordance with the Articles of Association, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Auditor, Mr. H. J. Limby, offers himself for re-election.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1892.

	Dr.	Tls.
Capital	\$130,000.00	
Less unissued	1,000.00	
	\$129,000.00	94,200.28
Debtenture Loans	\$95,500.00	69,618.38
Shanghai Agent		139.18
Directors' fees and General Agent's commission		2,117.00
Auditor's fee		100.00
Profit and Loss as at foot		14,763.41
		Sh. Tls. ...180,938.25

	Cr.	Tls.
Cash at Bankers (Shanghai)		339.84
London Agents *		542.06
Estate Manager		20,133.12
Bills receivable *		9,153.29
Land contracts		7,838.86
Furniture		1,029.28
Live stock		2,334.48
Buildings		33,888.19
Roads and drains		32,640.54
Implements		8,370.33
Disbursements, Account 1892		59,266.22
Do. do. 1893		402.04
		Sh. Tls. ...180,938.25

* Since paid.

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1891.

	Dr.	Tls.
Proceeds sale of waste leaf		73.00
Proceeds of sales in Amsterdam by the Deli Maatschappij of 1,900 bales tobacco, weighing		kilos 145,693
Less Tare of 2 kilos per bale		3,800
(at 62½ kilos per picul = piculs 2,270)		kilos 141,893
at an average of guilders 126.23 per ½ kilo ...		Glds. 358,229.20
Less Commission 1% for cash payments ...		3,582.29
Freight, insurance, and agency charges as per Deli Maatschappij a/c sales		33,649.39
		37,231.68
		Glds. 320,997.52
at average Ex. Glds. 176½ per \$100		\$182,140.52
at Ex. 73		132,962.58
Rebate on sterling drafts		157.64
		Sh. Tls. 133,193.22

Cr.	Tls
Foreign staff	10,639.75
Jungle cutting	1,587.95
Roads and drains	10,595.42
Buildings	14,585.40
Field labour	38,863.78
Assorting and bundling	6,395.23
Hospital and medicines	3,209.38
Travelling expenses	532.39
Telegraphic expenses	1,189.19
General charges	7,951.89
Live stock	1,174.95
Furniture	163.30
Implements	6,079.98
Interest	7,973.07
Exchange	220.46
Directors' fees and General Agent's allowance	2,117.00
Auditor's fees	100.00
Land taxes	1,261.92
Insurance	278.15
Estate manager's commission	3,654.00
Balance carried to Profit and Loss account	14,616.01
Sh. Tls.	133,193.22

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
Balance brought forward from 31st December, 1891.....	\$45,701.92 at Ex. 73
Balance of Working Account 1891 transferred	20,021.92 at Ex. 73
Sh. Tls.	47,978.41

Cr.	Tls.
Transfer to Debenture Loan Account of 6 0 bonds \$70 each distributed amongst holders of Shares Nos. 1 to 650—in terms of resolution passed at general meeting of 17th March, 1892	\$45,500 at Ex. 73
Balance	14,703.41
Sh. Tls.	47,978.41

R. M. CAMPBELL, } Directors.
GEO. MCBAIN, }
GEO. MCBAIN, }
General Agent.

I hereby certify that I have examined the foregoing Accounts with books, vouchers, and accounts to 31st October 1892 received from the Company's Estate Manager and have found them to be all in order.

H. J. LIMBY,
Auditor.

THE SHANGHAI WATERWORKS COMPANY, LIMITED.

On Wednesday afternoon the annual general meeting of the shareholders in the Shanghai Waterworks Company was held at the Shanghai Club, Mr. Alex. McLeod (Chairman) presiding. Those present were Messrs. H. R. Hearn, C. M. Dyce, R. H. Percival (Directors), E. Davis, H. Baxter, J. Buchanan, J. M. Young, J. A. Taylor, R. Hough, G. Galles, H. Morris, A. P. Wood (Engineer) and J. M. Ringer (Secretary) representing 1,127 shares.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts for the past year have been in your hands for several days, and with your permission I presume we may take them as read. There is not very much for me to say with regard to the accounts, but taking first the credit side of the Working Account, you will notice that our gross revenue amounts to the sum of Tls. 108,947.40, showing an increase of Tls. 11,830.32 on that of the previous year, which I trust you will consider satisfactory. The principal portion of this increase has been derived from the supply of water to our native consumers, and it is a gratifying fact that although the number of Chinese houses and hongs supplied with fittings has increased considerably during the year, we have also derived a larger income from the supply of water to the natives through our street hydrants than we did last year, and it is to these two

sources that we look for further extension of our business in the immediate future. On the debit side of the Working Account you will notice there has been a slight increase in the expenditure in the Engineer's Department, amounting to something under Tls. 2,200, in which amount is included the salary of our Assistant Engineer, Mr. Roche, who was sent out by the makers of our new engines to superintend their erection and whose services the Directors thought it desirable to retain permanently. The net result of the year's working shows a balance to credit of Tls. 69,804.17, or an increase on that of 1891 of Tls. 9,673.04.

After payment of the interim dividend in July last amounting to Tls. 22,177.50, we have now a sum of Tls. 43,904.84 for distribution. At the date the report was issued this sum was sufficient to pay a final dividend of 22s. 6d. per share at the exchange of 3s. 8d., the rate of the day for demand bank drafts, and admit of the sum of Tls. 700 being carried forward to new account, and the declaration of this dividend was recommended in the report. The last day or two, however, a serious decline has taken place in exchange, and the amount at our disposal is not quite enough to pay a dividend of 22s. 6d. at the current rate of 3s. 8½d. now ruling. The Directors will therefore suggest that a dividend of 22s. per share be declared, payable at exchange 3s. 8½d. per tael to shareholders on the Shanghai register, which will absorb Tls. 42,955.93 and leave an amount of Tls. 947.91 to be carried forward to new account. The Directors are pleased to be in a position to state that the whole of the Company's plant and works are in first class condition, but in view of the constant increase in consumption of water they have decided, on the recommendation of their Engineer-in-Chief to build another large filter bed at Yangtzepoo; tenders for this work have been received and the construction of same will be commenced immediately. There is one more subject that I wish to refer to which is not mentioned in the report, and that is a claim made against the Company by Mr. J. W. Hart on account of a bonus and remuneration for services rendered to the Company whilst he was in Shanghai, and which he asserts were not included in his agreement. The Directors have declined to admit any liability for this claim, a final settlement having been made with Mr. Hart by the London Directors shortly after his arrival at home. The Directors have instructed their Legal Advisers in London (Messrs. Harwood and Stephenson) to resist the same and to defend any action Mr. Hart may determine to bring against them, the opinion of our Lawyers being that Mr. Hart has no case against us. This matter is still in the hands of our Legal Advisers at home, and the Directors do not think it would be advisable to state publicly any details regarding this claim. That is all I have got to say, but before asking you to adopt the report and accounts, I shall be happy to answer any questions that any shareholder may wish to ask.

Mr. Henry Morris said he thought it would be a pity to depart from the printed report if the Directors could declare the dividend of 22/6. He could guarantee the Directors a rate of 3s. 8½d. so he did not see why they should take the rate at 3s. 8½d.

Mr. Ringer said he had been informed that morning that the rate was 3s. 8½d.

The Chairman said it was simply a matter for the shareholders. The Directors were informed that the rate of the day was 3s. 8½d., and some shareholders might object to receiving their dividends at a higher rate than that.

Mr. Morris said that the previous day's rate was a panic one on account of the Indian Budget, and it seemed a pity to alter the report just on account of a panic which seemed to have seized everybody in the East.

Mr. Hearn said that the rate named by a Bank Manager being 3s. 8½d. the Directors considered 22s. was as much as they could

divide, because by the Articles of Association they were not permitted to divide more than they had earned. It was not the question of the difference of the few Taels but of the principle of not dividing more than had been earned.

After some further discussion Mr. Henry Morris proposed, and Mr. Baxter seconded:

That the Report and Accounts, as presented, be accepted and passed, the payment of the dividend to be made at the rate of 3s. 8½d. per tael.

This upon being put to the meeting was carried.

Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Dyce it was resolved:

That a final dividend of 22/6 be declared and paid.

Upon the motion of Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Baxter, Mr. Hearn was re-elected a Director; the appointment of Mr. J. M. Ringer as Secretary was confirmed upon the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Galles; and Messrs. Andrew Burman and Drummond Hay were re-elected Auditors upon the proposition of Mr. J. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. J. M. Young.

Mr. Davis said he should like to ask the Directors to consider whether the Company could not be brought to China. In the early days it might have been necessary that it should be in London, but he thought that the administration could now conveniently be in China, which would save some Tls. 3,000 expenses of London agency, and Tls. 1,000 for Income Tax. He hoped the Directors would consider if this could not be done by next year.

The Chairman, whilst promising to consider the matter, did not hold out hopes of the suggestion being adopted. Some 2,200 shares were held in London, and the transfer of the head offices to Hongkong to retain the benefits of limited liability would entail a good deal of expense. Having an office in London was of great service to the Company in the execution of indents, great attention being paid to the orders at home.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The Directors, in submitting to the Shareholders the audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1892, have the satisfaction of pointing to a steady increase in the business of the Company; and they are pleased to be able to add that the prospects for the current year give promise of continued improvement.

The total Income of the Company for the year, from all sources, amounts to Taels 108,947.40; and the Working Account shows a balance to credit of Taels 69,804.17, which has been transferred to Profit and Loss Account. While, however, an increased revenue over the previous year of Taels 9,673.04 is thus exhibited, the Directors have to regret that, owing to the lower exchange, no larger sterling dividend than that of last year can now be declared.

An interim Dividend of 12s. per share was declared on the 28th July last, absorbing Taels 22,177.50, and there now remains at the credit of the Profit and Loss Account available for further distribution the sum of Taels 43,903.84. From this sum the Directors recommend a final Dividend for the year of 22s. 6d. per share. As regards Shareholders on the Shanghai register this will be payable in Taels at the current rate for Bank drafts on demand at the date on which the Dividend is declared.

The increase in the number of Chinese houses supplied with fittings has been steady and satisfactory; and at the same time there has been no falling off in the revenue derived from natives supplied from the street Hydrants.

The extension of mains, referred to in last year's Report, has been completed, and the Company is deriving a steady and satisfactory income therefrom; and it is expected that similar extensions will ere long become necessary, in order to meet the requirements of the increasing foreign Settlements.

The whole of the Company's works and plant have been kept in good repair and are in excellent order.

On the resignation of Mr. Ferdinand Rinkel of his seat on the Board on his departure for Europe, Mr. C. M. Dyce was invited to fill the vacancy: and Mr. R. H. Percival has also consented to join the Board to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Thos. Wood and the subsequent retirement of Mr. J. M. Ringer who had rejoined on his return from England.

Messrs. Drysdale, Ringer & Co. having resigned the Secretaryship of the Company, Mr. J. M. Ringer has been appointed Secretary, subject to the approval of the Shareholders, which will be asked at the forthcoming meeting.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Mr. H. R. Hearn retires from the Board, and being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

The Auditors, Messrs. A. Burman and Drummond Hay, likewise offer themselves for re-election.

A. McLEOD, *Chairman*.

Shanghai, 14th March, 1893.

THE SHANGHAI WATERWORKS COMPANY, LIMITED.

WORKING ACCOUNT, for the year ending 31st December, 1892.

Expenditure.		Tls.
Dr.		
To Engineer's Department—		
Salaries and Wages, cleaning filter beds and reservoirs, repairs to Mains and Works generally	14,749.66	
Repairs to Engines	541.69	
Fuel	6,558.20	
Less Stock	175.00	
	6,383.20	
Supplies at Works	1,490.26	
	23,164.81	
„ Management and General Charges—		
Rent, Rates and Taxes	1,449.11	
General Charges, Advertising, Telegrams, Office Expenses, Printing, Stationery, &c.	831.98	
Secretaries' Remuneration	3,620.00	
Legal Expenses	50.00	
Medical Attendance	150.00	
Auditors' Fees	300.00	
Directors' fees	1,500.00	
Expenses connected with supply to natives from Street Hydrants	4,950.96	
	12,832.05	
„ London Agency—		
Secretary's Salary, Rent, &c. £350 @ Ex. 3/9	1,866.67	
General Charges £28 14s. 0d. @ Ex. 3/9	153.07	
Committee's Fees £200 @ Ex. 3/7½	1,106.63	
	3,126.37	
„ Balance carried to Profit and Loss Account	69,804.17	
	Tls. 108,947.40	
Income.		Tls.
Cr.		
By Amount received on account of Water supply and from other sources	108,947.40	
	Tls. 108,947.40	
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1892.		Tls.
Dr.		
To Final dividend for 1891 @ 22/6	41,142.85	
„ Interim dividend for 1892 @ 12/	22,177.53	
„ Income tax for 1891, £261.12 @ 4/3	1,231.18	
„ Depreciation—		
On boilers and engines	2,000.00	
On extension account	350.00	
On furniture	67.00	
	2,417.00	
„ Interest account	379.09	
„ Balance	43,903.84	
	Tls. 111,251.49	

Cr.	Tls.
By Balance brought forward from last account	41,409.79
„ Exchange Account	37.53
„ Balance of Working Account	69,804.17
	Tls. 111,251.49

BALANCE SHEET, as on 31st December, 1892.

Dr.		Tls. c.
Liabilities.		
To Capital—		
7,200 shares, £20 each	144,000 0 0	
Less Amount of Calls unpaid	9 0 0	
	143,991 0 0	
@ Ex. 3/9	Tls. 767,952.00	
Less at Credit of Exchange Adjustment Account	102,298.23	
	665,653.77	
„ Reserve Fund—		
Premium on 2nd Issue	20,000.00	
„ Dividends Uncollected	685.86	
„ Sundry Creditors	3,895.22	
„ London Agency, £229.07 @ Ex. 3/9	1,221.49	
„ Bills Payable	6,874.93	
„ Depreciation Account—		
As per Statement 31st December, 1891	3,723.08	
On boilers and engines for 1892	2,000.00	
	5,723.08	
„ Profit and Loss Account	43,903.84	
	Tls. 747,958.19	

Assets.		Tls.
By Capital Expenditure—		
On Real Estate, Buildings, Works, Mains, Plant, Engines and Boilers, Extensions, etc., brought forward from 31st Dec., 1891	665,566.84	
Additional expenditure on new engines and boilers, erecting, etc.	382.02	
Extension on Real Estate, Works, Mains, etc., in 1892	8,218.40	
	674,167.26	
„ Extension Account—		
As per Statement 31st Dec., 1891	2,893.65	
Extension to private properties	604.38	
	3,498.03	
Less depreciation	350.00	
	3,148.03	
„ Fittings Account—		
Stock on hand	35,306.39	
„ Pumping Station Account—		
Stock on hand	5,317.01	
Fuel	175.00	
	5,492.01	
„ Office Furniture—		
Shanghai & London	1,330.00	
Less depreciation	67.00	
	1,263.00	
„ Fire Insurance Unexpired	200.00	
„ Suspense Account	70.57	
„ Cash at Bank—Shanghai	26,086.39	
„ Sundry Debtors	2,224.24	
	Tls. 747,958.19	

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 9th March, 1893.

J. M. RINGER,
Secretary.

We hereby certify that we have compared the accounts with the General Ledger, and with the accounts received from London, and have found them in accordance therewith; we have also compared the payments in the Cash Book with the various Vouchers for the year ending 31st December, 1892, and have found all to be correct.

ANDREW BURMAN, }
DRUMMOND HAY, } *Auditors*.

THE SHANGHAI TUG-BOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in this Company was held on Wednesday afternoon at the offices of the agents, Messrs. Morris & Co., the Chairman, Mr. Colin Buchanan, presiding. There were present Messrs. Nils Möller, J. Prentice (Directors), John Morris, R. Francis, J. Bannerman, P. V. Grant, F. Gove, H. Ollerdesen, W. H. Short, W. Dobie, W. Lamond, jr., R. E. C. Fittock, H. D. Patch, H. Symons, G. Galles, and J. Buchanan, representing 612 shares.

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, the report and accounts in your possession we will take as read if you have no objection. A comparison of the accounts with those of 1891, the preceding year, shows a falling-off in the earnings of over Tls. 11,000 and an increase in the expenses of about Tls. 2,000. The falling-off in the earnings is owing to fewer sailing ships visiting the port, and the increase in the expenditure to the addition to the fleet of the new tug *Samson* since August last. The balance of the Profit and Loss Account, after deducting Tls. 4,217.23 for depreciation of the tugs *Fuhlee*, *Rocket* and *Fokelin* and the salvage apparatus is Tls. 6,171.12 out of which we suggest that a dividend of Tls. 6 per share be paid, making a total for the year of Tls. 10, Tls. 4 per share interim dividend having already been paid. It will be seen from the Balance Sheet that we have increased our fleet by two new tug boats, the *Samson* and *Kaitung* at an outlay of Tls. 53,817.94 and that the total value of our five boats is Tls. 112,817.96. The *Samson* was taken over from the builders, Messrs. Boyd & Co., Limited, in August last, and has proved herself a valuable acquisition to our fleet. The *Kaitung* being offered for sale in December was bought for Tls. 17,750 cash. She is a powerful boat and just what we wanted to replace the *Fokelin*, now too small for the bulk of the work. She (the *Kaitung*) was built by Messrs. Boyd & Co. in 1888 at a cost of Tls. 23,000 and having seen but little service may be considered almost equal to new. The *Fuhlee* and the *Fokelin* require and are getting an overhaul; they have been hard run for the past two years. The salvage of the *Bokhara* wreck, which was undertaken in October last, has resulted so far in the recovery of treasure about Tls. 65,000 in November, about Tls. 3,000 in January, and Tls. 97,000 this month, as per telegram received on the 16th inst. from Amoy. We received on account of the salvage of the treasure recovered in November Tls. 12,000, which was credited to the Salvage Account. Of this amount, after deducting the expenses paid up to the 31st December there remains at the credit, as shown in the Balance Sheet, Tls. 6,677.17. The diving operations can only be conducted in calm weather and are rendered more difficult by the smashed up state of the wreck. The Company's chief diver, Mr. Morton, came to Shanghai early last month to explain the position and procure a further supply of explosives. He stated that the remaining boxes of treasure were in sight covered with a mass of wreckage, which required absolute calm weather to remove. He did not anticipate any difficulty in the removal when the weather was favourable. Owing to the exposed position of the wreck and the advisability of being ready to avail of every slant of fair weather it is necessary to keep a powerful boat like the *Samson* constantly in attendance until the work is finished. In accordance with the Articles of Association, I retire from my seat on the Board, and will serve again if re-elected. The Auditor, Mr. Limby, offers himself for re-election. Before putting the resolution for the adoption of the accounts to the meeting, I will be glad, if required, to give any further information in my power.

In reply to Mr. Lamond the Chairman stated Captain McCaslin received \$250 a month, and of the other Captains one got \$200 and the other \$175.

The Chairman then moved:

That the Report and Accounts as presented be passed.

Mr. Prentice seconded and the proposition was carried.

On the motion of Mr. Bannerman, seconded by Mr. Francis, Mr. Colin Buchanan was re-elected, unanimously, to serve on the Board as a Director in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Mr. Short proposed:

That a final dividend of six taels per share making a total of ten taels for the year, be paid on or before April 12th.

Mr. Dobie seconded.

Mr. John Morris, in reply to Mr. Francis, stated that the reason they were waiting until April 12th was to give them time to receive letters from Amoy to establish their position with regard to the treasure salvaged exactly.

The motion was then put and carried.

Proposed by Mr. Fittcock, seconded by Mr. Patch, it was agreed:

That Mr. H. J. Limby be re-elected Auditor.

Mr. Gove asked for information with regard to the instructions given to the Captains of the tugs about proceeding to Woosung at night, and in a little discussion which followed, the Chairman explained that the orders to the Captains were not to proceed to Woosung after dark, unless it were absolutely necessary. These instructions were issued with a view to the avoidance of accidents on the river.

The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. Gove.

REPORT.

The Directors submit the audited accounts for the year 1892, showing net earnings Tls. 13,236.83.

The new tug-boat *Samson* was taken over from the builders, Messrs. Boyd & Co., Ltd., in August last and is doing her work satisfactorily.

The tug-boat *Kaitung*, built by Messrs. Boyd & Co. in 1888 for the native authorities to attend upon the dredger at the Woosung bar, being offered for sale, the purchase on behalf of this Company was arranged early in December last, when she was paid for, and taken delivery of.

At the credit of the profit and loss account, the balance brought forward from the previous year, together with the net earnings and interest, amount to Tls. 18,386.13.

At the debit of this account are Tls. 3,000 the final dividend for 1891, paid in March 1892, Tls. 4,000 interim dividends for 1892, paid in June and September last.

Tls. 4,217.23 for depreciation written off the cost of the tugs *Fuhle*, *Rocket* and *Fokelin* and the salvage apparatus, and Tls. 997.78 for the amount of judgment in the *Diver Roberts* suit, together with the legal fees for that and the *Hoihow* collision case, leaving a balance carried forward of Tls. 6,171.12 for future disposal.

Salvage Bokhara wreck.—An agreement was entered into with the acting agent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. to conduct salvage operations, now being carried on, at the wreck of the s.s. *Bokhara*, which occurred at the *Pescadores* early in October last.

The Superintendent's and Superintending Engineer's reports of the hulls, engines and boilers of the tugs *Samson*, *Kaitung*, *Fuhle*, *Rocket* and *Fokelin* are satisfactory.

Mr. Buchanan, in accordance with the Articles of Association, retires from the Board, and being eligible offers himself for re-election.

C. BUCHANAN,
Chairman.

From 1st January 1892 to 31st December 1892.

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Tug-boats' portage bills	13,530.69
" Superintending engineer and shore staff wages	2,742.53
" Wages of carpenter, watchman and sampanman, etc.	572.93
" 1,541 tons coal	7,042.59
" Repairs account	498.97
" Deck and engine-room stores ..	2,122.84
" Medical attendance	200.00
" Directors' fees	320.00
" Auditor's fees	100.00
" Godown rent 1 year	194.04
" Telephone	50.00
" Petty charges	418.98
" Fire Insurance contents of godown	30.00
" 3 months' insurance <i>Samson</i> Tls. 25,000.00	2,250.00
" Agents' commission	2,045.08
" Balance to Profit and Loss	13,236.83
	Tls. 45,375.48

Cr.	Tls.
By Gross earnings of tug-boats ...	44,523.54
" Hire of diver and gear	800.00
" Transfer fees	8.50
" Rent from powder-boat	43.44
	Tls. 45,375.48

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Final Dividend for 1891, Tls. 3 per share	3,000.00
" Interim Dividends	4,000.00
" Judgment in <i>Diver Roberts</i> suit.	399.29
" Legal Expenses	598.49
" Depreciations on tugs & wrecking apparatus	4,217.23
" Balance	6,171.12
	Tls. 18,386.13

Cr.	Tls.
By Balance	4,045.67
" Balance Working Account	13,236.83
" Interest	1,103.63
	Tls. 18,386.13

BALANCE SHEET.

Assets.	
	Tls.
To Wrecking apparatus	4,000.00
" Hulls of tugs <i>Fuhle</i> , <i>Rocket</i> , <i>Fokelin</i>	59,000.00
" Hull of <i>Kaitung</i>	17,750.00
" " <i>Samson</i>	36,067.94
" 106½ tons coal	441.00
" Morris & Co.	1,318.34
	Tls. 118,577.28

Liabilities.	
Cr.	Tls.
By Share Account	100,000.00
" Reserve Fund	3,000.00
" Profit and Loss	6,171.12
" Salvage operations <i>Bokhara</i>	6,677.77
" Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, overdraft	2,728.39
	Tls. 118,577.28

E. & O. E.

Shanghai, 7th March 1893.

C. BUCHANAN, } Directors.
NILS MOLLER, }
MORRIS & Co.
Agents.

I hereby certify that I have examined all the Accounts of the Company, comparing them with Vouchers, and have found the same to be all in order.

H. J. LIMBY,
Auditor.

To CURE SKIN DISEASES.—Sulpholine Lotion quickly drives away Eruptions, Pimples, Blotches, Redness, Eczema, Acne, Disfigurements, Roughness and Scurf, &c., leaving a clear, spotless Skin and beautiful Complexion. Sulpholine is a necessity for the Skin, especially in hot climates. Made in London. Sold everywhere. (2)

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SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB.

On Monday afternoon the annual meeting of members to elect a Committee for the coming season was held at the Shanghai Club, Mr. Arthur Anderson, President, occupying the chair.

The Chairman explained that the practice had been to elect a President first, and then to elect a Committee, who appointed their own Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. R. Macgregor proposed the re-election of Mr. Anderson as President.

Mr. Reynell seconded.

Mr. H. T. Wade, as one of the oldest members of the Club, expressed his wish to be allowed to nominate Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Macgregor accordingly gave way and proposed by Mr. Wade, and seconded by Mr. Reynell, Mr. Anderson was unanimously re-elected.

The Chairman briefly acknowledged the compliment.

Mr. Bruce Robertson proposed, and Mr. Pond seconded the election of the following gentlemen to serve on the Committee: Messrs. A. G. H. Carruthers, C. S. Barff, R. Macgregor, A. J. H. Moule, F. A. de St. Croix, and E. Gumpert.

The resolution was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Nichol proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Committee and officers, alluding to the great services rendered by Mr. Anderson, Mr. R. Carr, and Mr. Pond.

Mr. Bruce Robertson seconded and the vote of thanks was carried.

The Chairman after returning thanks, said that Mr. A. P. Wood proposed and he seconded that the old rule with regard to the date of meetings should be reverted to. The resolution was: "That Rule 4 be altered to read 'that the annual general meeting of the Club be held in March for receiving the report and passing the accounts, for the election of office-bearers, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought forward.'"

The resolution was adopted *nem. con.*

The Chairman announced that the Club would commence the season with a balance at the bank of Tls. 347.74, and for the stained-glass memorial window they had Tls. 452.25. The order for the window had gone forward to Messrs. Lavers and Westlake, and Mr. Percy Lavers, when he was here recently, kindly undertook to forward the order with some explanations which he deemed necessary after visiting the Cathedral and seeing where it was proposed to place the window.

INDIAN FRONTIER DISTURBANCES.—The news that a rising has taken place among the Kachins of North Hsen-Wi will scarcely come as a surprise, remarks an Indian paper. The reigning Sawbwa owes his position to British aid, and there is no suspicion of his loyalty. His subjects, however, are a curious mixture of races, Shan, Palong, Kachin, and Chinese, and although Hsen-Wi is nominally a Shan State, the Shans proper have scarcely a majority in point of numbers, and are insignificant in political importance as compared with their unruly neighbours the Kachins. The Kachins have apparently been incited to rebellion by the ex-Sawbwa of Wuntho, who has proved a thorn in the side of the local Government since the annexation of Upper Burma. The Sawbwa, it may be remembered, fled northwards towards the Taungthlon hills, after the occupation of his capital, and being constantly pursued by British troops eventually took refuge in Chinese territory. It is anticipated that his reappearance in the most unruly district of the Northern Shan States will involve serious trouble.

To DARKEN GREY HAIR.—Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer is the quickest, best, safest; costs less, effects more than any other. The colour produced is most natural. Lockyer's Sulphur is the only English Hair Restorer universally sold. (3)

THE HALL & HOLTZ CO. CO., LD.

The extraordinary general meeting called to confirm the resolution passed on 2nd inst. was held on Saturday, the 18th March, 1893. Present: Messrs. John Morris, (Chairman) H. J. Limby, E. Byrne, W. W. Clifford, W. A. C. Platt (Legal Adviser), H. Symons, J. C. Quick, J. S. Bryan, S. B. Remedios, F. Carion, F. R. Rogers, and Mr. W. Hayward (Secretary).

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said—According to the Articles of Association a resolution passed at an extraordinary meeting, to be binding, must be confirmed at a subsequent general meeting of which notice has been duly given, and held at an interval of not less than 30 days from the date of the meeting at which such resolution was first passed. The resolution I am now about to call upon you to confirm was first passed on the 2nd inst. The Legal Adviser was consulted about holding the confirmation meeting and gave as his opinion that 14 days' notice only was necessary in this instance. I now call upon you to confirm the resolution first passed at the extraordinary meeting held on the 2nd inst. which reads as follows:—Proposed by Mr. Byrne, and seconded by Mr. Clifford:

That the Company be wound up voluntarily under the provisions of the Companies' Ordinances (Hongkong), with a view to reconstruction, and that Mr. Edwin Byrne, of Shanghai be, and he is hereby appointed Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up.

A show of hands having been taken the Chairman declared the resolution carried and confirmed. The duties of the Board now cease, and the Liquidation is in the hands of Mr. Byrne.

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS, LD.

The third ordinary general meeting of the Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, Limited, was held yesterday (9th Feb.), at the Cannon-street Hotel, under the presidency of Mr. William Keswick (the chairman of the company).

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Secretary (Mr. Charles H. Campbell),

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, it is a subject of regret to the board that, in meeting you on this occasion, they are unable to submit to you a more satisfactory report and statement of accounts for the past year, and that results, when compared with two previous returns, are not more favourable. I feel, however, in speaking to business men—and more especially to those who may be acquainted with the East—that they will find abundant explanation of the difference in the general course of events during the past twelve months, and, particularly in the fall of fully 5d. per ounce in the value of silver, a reason for the unfortunate necessity we are under of transferring to profit and loss account the whole reserve fund, in addition to the profits of the year, in order to make provision for writing down exchange and for meeting depreciation on investments in India and in this country. The accounts have been in your hands, and I will go through the items which are in the general balance-sheet. The first matter which calls for remark is that of the fixed deposit account. The amount, you will observe, is £1,487,556, and last year at the same time it was about £1,400,000; so that the increase is about, in round figures, £80,000. Over £100,000 of those deposits are in silver; the balance in gold. The bills payable, you will observe, represent but a small amount—£89,308. The figures brought down until to-day, for instance, would take off from that £20,000 to £25,000. Last year at the same time the amount was £948,000. They are due to acceptances and various things

that have become responsible for. Loans and London bankers' acceptances amount to £346,411. These are, of course, borrowings upon securities held by the bank. Other liabilities, including current transactions in transit with branches, £551,247, are due, in a great measure, to the fact that in the East we close our financial year on 31st October and the inter-branch operations have to be carried, on both sides of the account, into entries of this nature. They do not represent anything that calls for remark. On the assets side you will observe Indian Government Rupee Paper as valued at 63, roughly; to-day's value is 65. Indian Government Paper held in India and in transit at current rates, £244,168. That is not an investment in the strict sense of the term, because it is used for purposes of exchange, and is answering the purpose of bills of exchange. It is simply money in transit, and it is not subject to any speculative change, and is not a speculative investment whatever. Investments made in London (£38,718) represent various things in which, as a trust and loan company, we became interested before the institution became a bank. The advances against securities are, of course, the amounts which are in the East. Bills receivable and other assets are in corresponding entries to this on the other side. Deposit expenses are expenses in connection with the deposits received.

Turning to the profit and loss account, the first item is the expenses of management at the head office. These expenses are, of course, greater than they were last year. We have additional expenses in regard to changes that have occurred in our staff; also, we have opened a branch in Calcutta, from which we hope good things. Generally, there is an increase in that amount, and probably, if the extension of business which we anticipate takes place, that amount will still further tend against the bank. Other items are interest on fixed deposits, taxes, and so on. The amount appropriated to writing down the entire funds of the bank in the East to the value of 3s. for the dollar and 1s. 4½d. for the rupee amounts to £226,235. You will remember that I last year said the rate of exchange at which the bank's balance in the East was taken over was a fraction over 3s. 5d. per dollar—a rate higher than prevailed, and due to the cost at which our funds were placed in the East; and the same remark might now be made on these rates, which, notwithstanding that so much has been written off, are still too high. The gross receipts of the bank show well; they are £132,994 8s. 6d. It is unfortunate that these accounts look so bad; but it is necessary you should bear in mind that we started originally as a trust and loan company, and our losses are in connection with the exchange. Its business was chiefly lending money on mortgage and making advances on securities. In carrying out such business, loans on mortgage were made in India, Singapore, Penang, China, and Japan for fixed periods, and consequently, until the expiration of the terms arranged for nothing could be done to save the money so advanced from the effects of a depreciation in silver by the earlier conversion of silver funds into sterling money. The security we possessed in these mortgages, and also the rates of interest, were quite satisfactory, but the money was subject to the disastrous fall in the exchange which has ensued. Now, of course, when the trust and loan company has become a bank, no renewals are taking place, and every effort is being made to bring the entire assets of the bank into a liquid state, so as to confine its operations strictly to banking, and to eliminate as far as practicable from our operations the risks attending long-period obligations. You will have noticed the remark in the report that on some of our advances in China there would be at the moment, were

accounts to be instantly closed, some deficiency. The securities held are interest-bearing, and are improving in value, and I would mention, as accounting for the disappearance of the margin at one time possessed, that the absconding of the com-pradore of the largest banking institution in the East had a most depressing effect on all securities, and that it is to the influence, indirectly, of this event that our managers attribute what they term the undue depreciation of the securities in their hands, but on which they do not expect there will be any loss.

The gross earnings of the year are, in round figures, £133,000, and the net profit is £34,840; and both, I think you will agree with me, indicate satisfactorily the earning power of the bank in a year that has abounded in difficulties. Under ordinary circumstances and favourable conditions, there is no reason to doubt the power of the bank to realise the expectations of its shareholders, and to satisfactorily fill the place in Eastern banking that is open to it. In India, where the scope of its operations is greatest, the directors have opened a branch in Calcutta, which they have reason to believe will be of considerable advantage to the bank. The strength of the bank is not open to doubt. Our paid-up capital is, in round figures, £250,000, and the uncalled £1,750,000. The greater part of our deposits is for long periods, the amounts are well spread, and our depositors, convinced of the absolute and overwhelming security they possess in the assets and capital of the bank, continue to give us satisfactory assurances of their confidence. With the extension of business to which the directors look forward, it may be necessary, somewhat later in this year, to increase the paid-up capital; but this will only be done if found clearly desirable, and, under any circumstance, the amount will not exceed 20s. per share, payable by instalments, of which due notice will be given. I have endeavoured, gentlemen, in these remarks to place before you, in as clear a manner as possible, the position of affairs as it is viewed by the board, and in doing so it has been my desire to enable you, for yourselves, to judge what are the present position and the future prospects of the bank. I would only further say that we are not to expect that the depression, the gloom, and the disappointments of the past two years are to abide always with us, and for ever paralyse trade, which otherwise should be healthy. The normal conditions of commerce and of finance will again return, and I believe this bank will then prosper, and prove to its shareholders a valuable property. I beg to move, gentlemen: "That the annual statement of accounts and balance-sheet and the report of the directors and auditors thereon be, and are hereby, adopted." (Applause.)

Mr. Egbert Iveson seconded the motion.

Mr. Worley asked what was the amount of directors' fees.

The Chairman said the articles of association entitled the directors to £3,000 per annum and a contingent amount on profits; but they had only taken £2,600.

Mr. Worley said the amount charged on fixed deposits seemed to average 5 per cent.; but he did not think they could afford to pay more than 4 per cent. as a maximum. He thought the directors had acted wisely in writing down the funds in the East; but it was very unfortunate that they should have all the reserve fund go in one fell swoop. Still, it was much better to face the position, and he trusted they all knew the worst. He thought it would be well to have the funds taken at a fixed rate in future. With regard to the founders, it appeared that in good times they reaped the benefit, but in bad times they had no share in the losses.

The Chairman remarked that half of the reserve fund, which was now, unfortunately, wiped out, belonged to the founders under the articles. It would undoubtedly be

desirable if a fixed rate of exchange could be arranged, and perhaps, now they had got to what could not be considered a high rate, that might be taken as the basis on which accounts in the future should be made up, with a provision, however, that if the rate were lower, out of the profit and loss account there should be a contribution either to a fund to meet depreciation in exchange or to a reserve fund specially. Replying to a shareholder, who asked a question in respect to the holdings of the board, and said some shares transferred to him were dated from the office in Princes-street, the Chairman said the directors, instead of having reduced their holdings, had increased them. The bank sometimes had instructions to sell shares, but it did not follow that because they were dated from the office they had belonged to the directors, or any one connected with them. (Hear, hear.) As to the expenses, it should not be overlooked that the bank had a great many establishments and agencies in different parts of the field they covered.

After a short further discussion, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. H. D. Stewart proposed the re-election of the retiring directors (Mr. Keswick and Mr. F. D. Sassoon), and the motion was carried.

The auditors (Messrs Tarquand, Youngs and Co.) were re-elected, on the motion of Mr. Sampson Hanbury.

The proceedings then closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, moved by Mr. Worley.—*Financial News.*

Reports.

THE STRAITS FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the sixth annual report and balance sheet presented to the shareholders at the eighth ordinary general meeting of the Company, held on Friday the 17th inst. :—

Your Directors beg to place before you the annexed statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1892.

It has been thought desirable to depart from the form of stating the accounts hitherto used, and to adopt the system followed by the great majority of British and American Fire Offices, and which we think enables us to set forth more clearly the actual financial position of the Company.

The total amount of Revenue account, including balance from 1891, amounts to \$448,968.75 (£63,603 18s. 2d.)

The total Expenditure amounts to \$207,278.42 (£29,364 8s. 11d.).

A Special Reserve Fund has been created for Re-insurance of unexpired risks, being 40 per cent. of the gross premium (less Re-insurance) on all policies unexpired on 31st December, 1892, \$91,110 (£12,907 5s.).

A further Reserve is made for claims reported, but not yet adjusted \$28,235.30 (£4,000).

The accounts have been adjusted at the Exchange of 2/10 per \$.

An interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum was paid on 2nd January, 1893, absorbing \$20,000 (£2,833 6s. 8d.), and from the balance of Revenue account the following appropriations have been made :—

To Reserve Fund	\$50,000
To Exchange and Investment Fluctuation Account	7,500
To Donation to Employe's Superannuation Fund	1,500

The Board now recommend that there be declared—

A final dividend on account of year 1891, @ 2½ per cent. ... 10,000

An interim dividend on account of year 1892, @ 2½ per cent. ... 10,000

And that the balance, \$22,845.03 (£3,165 10s. 11d.) be carried forward to credit of new Profit and Loss Account.

Directors.—In accordance with the provisions of clause 103 of the Company's Articles of Association, Mr. Th. Sohst and Mr. A. N. Van Gils van der Pals retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—In accordance with Clause 141 of the Articles of Association, Mr. J. Lyall and Mr. R. Dunman retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1892.

Liabilities.	
Dr. \$	
To Capital fully subscribed 20,000 Shares @ \$100	2,000,000
„ Capital paid up	400,000
„ Reserve Fund	120,000
„ Exchange and Investment Fluctuation Reserve	7,500
„ Unclaimed Dividends	668
„ Sundry Creditors	12,325
„ Reserve for Re-insurance	91,110
„ Do. for Unadjusted Claims	28,235
„ Balance of Profit and Loss Account	62,845
	<u>\$722,684</u>

Assets.	
Cr. \$	
By Cash on Current Account with Banks, Singapore	21,185
„ Fixed deposit with Banks, Singapore	95,000
„ Mortgages of Real Estate, Singapore	198,500
„ Real Estate owned by Company, Singapore	76,057
„ Municipal 5 per cent Debentures, Singapore	50,000
„ Cash on Current Account with Banks, London	45,097
„ Agency Cash Balance, London	20,450
„ Consols (£5,500, 2½ per cent), London	36,994
„ Canada 5 per cent. Government Bonds, London	23,506
„ Freehold Premises Change Alley, London	76,469
„ Remittances in Transit, London	2,579
„ Fixed Deposits with Banks, Australia	7,058
„ Cash at Agencies, Australia	22,865
„ Shanghai Land Co., 6 per cent. Debentures	27,688
„ Branch and Agency Cash Balances	12,316
„ Sundry Debtors for Interest, Premiums, &c.	6,043
„ Furniture at Head Office and Branches	871
	<u>\$722,684</u>

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE 1892.

Dr. \$	
To Balance of Revenue Account at 31st Dec., 1891	\$152,968
Less Returns and Re-insurances Paid	9,228
	<u>143,739</u>
„ Net Premiums from 1st January to 31st Dec., 1892	315,983
Less Re-insurance & Return Premiums	50,213
	<u>265,770</u>
„ Interest and Rents	32,861
„ Exchange Account	6,596
	<u>\$448,968</u>

Cr. \$	
By Head Office Expenses	19,793
„ Branches and Agency Expenses	45,725
„ Commissions	18,945
„ Directors' and Auditors' Fees	3,974
„ Losses and Claims Paid	118,909
„ Claims reported but not yet adjusted	28,235
„ Re-insurance Reserve, being 40% of gross premiums on unexpired policies less re-insurance	91,110
„ Balance	122,345
	<u>\$448,968</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	
To Balance of Revenue Account	\$122,345
	<u>\$122,345</u>

Cr.	
By Written off Furniture Account	\$ 501
„ Reserve Fund	50,000
„ Exchange and Investment Fluctuation Reserve	7,500
„ Donation to Employe's Superannuation Fund	1,500
„ Balance	62,845
	<u>\$122,345</u>

(Cents have been omitted for convenience in printing).—*Straits Times.*

SHANGHAI GAS COMPANY.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS.

For presentation at the General Meeting of Shareholders to be held on 29th March, 1893.

In presenting the 29th Annual Report with statement of Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1892, the Directors have much pleasure in again congratulating the shareholders on the very favourable position of the Company, the accounts continuing to show a steady increase in the business.

The net profit for the year, taking the usual ordinary items, is Tls. 50,854.71, but the Directors have thought it advisable to allow Tls. 2,500 as the probable loss by the New Oriental Bank Corporation, Ltd., thus reducing the amount to Tls. 48,354.71, from which must be deducted Tls. 12,000 dividend for the half year ending June 30th 1892, paid in July last, and Tls. 9,380.52, written off for depreciation on land, buildings, plant, etc. The balance carried forward to new account is Tls. 24,644.41, out of which the dividend for the six months ending December 31st, 1892, was paid in January last.

As usual a large amount has been written off for depreciation, particularly from plant account, the whole cost of additions to mains during the year being taken off. The laying of the new main, alluded to in last year's report as being necessary for the supply of the district north of the Soochow Creek, was completed last month.

The increase in the consumption of gas is highly satisfactory, being 7.2% not including the French Settlement; this is the largest percentage in any year, with one exception, since 1883. The French Settlement being a new district the percentage of increase there is naturally greater than in the older district, and the Directors hope for a still further expansion in that quarter. The consumption among the Chinese is steadily improving, the receipts from this source being nearly 14% greater than in 1891, and it is reasonable to expect that with lower price and the measures taken to make the advantage of using gas more generally known among the natives, the consumption will be considerably extended among them.

From the 1st of January, 1893, the price to both Municipalities and to private consumers has been again reduced, and is now \$1.85, with a discount of 5% for cash, to consumers of 20,000 cubic feet and upwards monthly, and an additional 5% to those whose average monthly consumption for twelve months is 50,000 cubic feet and upwards.

Gas Engines.—There are now 20 of these in use, and the price of gas supplied to them has also been reduced, to \$1.65 per 1,000 cubic feet, with an allowance of 5% for 50,000 feet and upwards per month. The consumption in 1892 was 860,000 feet greater than in 1891, which in its turn was 600,000 in excess of 1890.

Cooking Stoves.—There are as yet very few of these in use, which is somewhat to be wondered at, as with the very low price for the gas they are economical for small households and exceeding convenient. The same may be said of heating stoves, and it is hoped that there will be a greater demand for both.

The coal carbonised was 1,000 tons more than in 1891, and the gas produced, over 9,200,000 cubic feet more.

The receipts from residual products were Tls. 3,751.82 greater than in the preceding twelve months.

The new holder has now been in use for some time and the total storage capacity is 320,000 cubic feet.

Interest on the Reserved Fund.—This, as in the previous accounts, has been kept separate, the account being credited with interest on

the full amount of Tls. 100,000. There will be a resolution submitted to divide the amount, viz. Tls. 5,220.49, among the shareholders, say at the rate of Tls. 2.61 per share.

The subjoin d summary of the Engineer's fortnightly reports gives the necessary details regarding plant, buildings, etc. The dwelling-house and offices referred to, will in all probability be renewed this year.

The Directors, in accordance with the Deed of Settlement, retire from office but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. White offers himself for re-election as Auditor.

JOHN G. PURDON,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 18th March, 1893.

Summary of Engineer's Fortnightly Reports to the Directors during the year 1892.

Manufacture—

Buildings.—All in good order except dwelling house and offices at works.

Plant.—Additional condensers will be required.

Foundations for four new settings have been put down.

Retorts and bench fittings for these have been ordered and settings will be in working order for next winter.

	Tons. cwt. qts.
Coal and cannel carbonised.....	8,020.7.3
Gas manufactured 77,931,800 cubic feet.	
Yield per ton of coal, etc., carbonised 9,716 cubic feet.	

Average illuminating power sperm candles 20.

Distribution.

Mains.—During the year 2,682 yards of new mains have been laid down, including 1,128 yards of 14-inch pipes in the Peking Road.

Gas sold during the year and in holders on the 31st December, 1892 cubic feet 70,122,488

Gas unaccounted for by leakage, &c., gas used in works, testing stations and residences cubic feet. 7,809,312

Increase in gas sold as compared with the past (not including the French Settlement) 7.20%

Increase in gas sold from the 1st April to 31st December in the French Settlement only 11.48%

Total increase in gas sold as compared with the past year 11.18%

Gas unaccounted for in distribution 9.24%

H. EDWARDS,
Engineer.

Shanghai, 31st December, 1892.

WORKING ACCOUNT for the year ended 31st December, 1892.

Dr.	Tls.
To Manufacture of Gas—	
Coal carbonised	36,115.16
Purifying material, oil and sundries	1,809.88
Salaries and wages	9,241.53
Repairs and maintenance of works and residences; renewal of retorts, tools and material; fuel for residences and workshops.....	4,484.20
	51,650.77
„ Distribution of Gas—	
Wages	2,819.01
Repairs and maintenance of mains, services and public lamps; Municipal charges for repairing roads, and repairs to consumers' fittings	2,258.10
	5,077.11
„ Management and General Charges—	
Salaries and wages	4,620.77
Directors' fees	1,940.00
Auditor's fees	200.00
Medical attendance	390.98
Legal expenses	100.00
Printing and stationery	685.98
Land and other taxes..	121.59
Office and miscellaneous	445.74
Rent allowance	404.76
Fire Insurance	91.29
	9,001.12
„ Balance, being profit on working account.....	51,868.10
	Tls. 117,597.10

Cr.	Tls.
By Amount of charges for Gas—	
Foreigners and public lamps	69,735.70
Natives	31,056.01
	100,791.71
„ Residual Products—	
Coke	12,949.17
Tar	3,856.22
	16,805.39
	Tls. 117,597.10

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st December, 1892.

Dr.	Tls.
To Dividend of 6% on Capital paid on 14th Jan., 1892.....	12,000.00
„ Dividend of 6% on Capital paid on 7th July, 1892	12,000.00
„ Passages.....	674.50
„ Exchange account (dollars being taken at 73).....	4.03
„ Bad debts written off	9.53
„ Amount written off from New Oriental Bank Corporation, Ltd. fixed deposit	2,500.00
„ Interest account (balance thereof)	349.71
„ Amount written off for depreciation on land, buildings, plant, &c.....	19,380.52
„ Balance to be carried to next Account, subject to half-year's Dividend to 31st Dec., 1892	24,644.41
	Tls. 71,562.70

Cr.	Tls.
By Balance brought forward from last year	19,670.22
„ Return Contribution from China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	13.86
„ Return Contribution from the Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	10.52
„ Balance of Working Account	51,868.10
	Tls. 71,562.70

RESERVE FUND ACCOUNT, 31st December, 1892.

Dr.	Tls.
To Amount carried to Reserved Fund Interest Account	5,220.49
„ Balance	100,000.00
	Tls. 105,220.49

Cr.	Tls.
By Balance at credit thereof, 31st Dec., 1891	100,000.00
„ Interest	5,220.49
	Tls. 105,220.49

RESERVED FUND INTEREST ACCOUNT, 31st December, 1892.

Dr.	Tls.
To Balance.....	5,220.49

Cr.	Tls.
By Amount transferred from Reserved Fund	5,220.49

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1892.

Capital Account—	T's.
2,000 shares at Tls. 100 each.....	200,000.00
Reserved Fund Account—	
Balance at credit thereof	100,000.00
Reserved Fund Interest Account—	
Balance at credit thereof	5,220.49
Profit and Loss Account—	
Balance at credit thereof	24,644.41
Sundry Creditors	1,756.33
Dividends unpaid	653.00
Deposit from Coke Contractor	876.00
Deposit from Tar Contractor	500.00
Deposit from Compradore	735.00
Deposit from Gas Consumers	1,773.22
	Tls. 336,158.45

Assets.	Tls.
Land and Buildings for the Manufacture of Gas.—	
Cost on 31st Dec., 1891.....	38,000.00
Additions during the year.	3,617.43
	41,617.43
Less written off for Depreciation.....	2,617.43
	39,000.00
Machinery for the Manufacture of Gas.—	
Cost on 31st Dec., 1891	78,000.00
Additions during the year.	1,712.75
	79,712.75
Less written off for Depreciation.....	3,712.75
	76,000.00
Mains, services for the distribution of Gas—	
Cost on 31st Dec., 1891.....	86,000.00
Additions during the year.	12,981.49
	98,981.49
Less written off for depreciation	12,981.49
	86,000.00
Office Furniture—	
Valuation on 31st Dec., 1891	450.00
Additions during the year	18.85
	468.85
Less written off for depreciation	68.85
	400.00
Fire Insurance unexpired	58.90
Stocks on hand —	
Fittings	12,790.20
Coal, tar, purifying material and gas in holders	3,327.40
Gas engines, gas stoves and improved lights for houses and streets	4,900.79
	21,018.39
Sundry Debtors:—	
Amounts due for gas, fittings, coke, tar, &c.....	*12,088.03
Deposits with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	22,000.00
Deposits with the New Oriental Bank Corporation, Ltd.	5,000.00
Less written off to Profit and loss account 31st December, 1892	2,500.00
	2,500.00
Deposits with the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	16,000.00
Debentures of the Shanghai Land Investment Co. Limited, bearing 6 per cent interest per annum.....	50,000.00
Debentures of the Shanghai Municipal Council loan of 1892 bearing 5 per cent interest per annum.....	6,003.75
Interest accrued 31st December, 1892	1,381.43
Balance at credit of current account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	3,601.95
Cash on Hand	106.00
	Tls. 336,158.45

* Since collected Tls. 12,020.64.

CHR. SCHEFFELMANN,
Secretary.

JOHN G. PURDON, Chairman.
R. FRANCIS,
E. JENNER HOGG, } Directors.

I hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing Accounts with the General Ledger, and have found them in conformity therewith. I have compared the payments in the Cash Book with the Vouchers and Bank's Pass Book for the year ending 31st December, 1892. I have also examined the Securities of the Company, and have found all in order.

AVG. WHITE,
Auditor.

LIVER COMPLAINTS.—Dr. King's Dandelion and Quinine Liver, Pills, without Mercury, are a potent remedy; remove all Liver and Stomach Complaints, Biliousness, Headache, Sickness, Shoulder Pains, Heartburn, Indigestion, Constipation. Made only in London, sold everywhere. (5)

alt. 28ja-93 84

Amusements.

THE 100TH PERFORMANCE BY
THE AMATEUR DRAMATIC
CLUB OF SHANGHAI.

THE TALE OF TELL RE-TOLD,

OR

WILLIAM AND ROBIN WERE TWO PRETTY
MEN!

Characters:—

GESLER, the tyrannical Governor of
Altorf, who eventually repents and
finds his *right son* although he is
all the time.....Mr. Wrongman.

SARNEM, a bilious Jailer with a
secret, who is mostly in a *brown*
study.....Mr. Umber.

WILLIAM TELL, a Patriot of *super*
excellence. A Swiss workman who
is such a socialist that he is always
on the strike.....Mr. Super.

ALBERT CHEVALIER, Tell's stepson
and his Mother's hope. A *fin de*
siècle youth who, to speak frankly,
is Master of the situation and
always ready to accost a pretty
girl.....Mr. Frank.

ERNI, a socialist like Tell, who
objects to *Erni's* living except by
worship at the shrine of his divinity.....Mr. Temple.

FURST,	Patriots who make piercing objections to all existing rules —the coming men of the Altorf Social Club.....	Messrs.
MELCHTAL,		Perforate.
VERNER,		Dowlish.
		Eggnogg.

EMMA, Tell's Wife, a woman of *sighs*,
but all who see must adore her
.....Miss Dora Munday.

ROSETTA, Daughter of Sarnem, who
by her flirtation nearly alienated
Albert's love.....Miss Polly Pembroke.

THE BEAR. As his beauty is only
skin deep, Gesler has the *bad*
manners not to bear with him
.....Mr. Twolips.

MR. THOMAS COOK, personally con-
ducting a robbin' tourist crowd in
Switzerland.....Mr. H. Morton.

ROBIN HOOD, of the Ancient Order
of Foresters, a heavy villain, two-
pence coloured.....Mr. G. L. U. Potts.

LITTLE JOHN, a still heavier villain,
weight for inches, penny plain
.....Mr. T. Square.

ALLAN-A-DALE, who will discourse
this time in a *date* of pure English
.....Mr. McToddy.

FRIAR TUCK, Cook's *friar*, a good
trencherman who can always clear
his *platter*.....Mr. Henry Hampshire.

MAID MARIAN, a poor girl run to
waste. No man was ever her equal
.....Miss Molecule.

PEASANTS, CONSPIRATORS, etc.—Messrs. Back-
gammon, Ginger, Tom Bowling, jr., Hel-
merding, Navi, Cholli, St. Galmier, Mario,
Parshant, Fustian, Leon, Bacon, Snodgrass,
S. Peter, Scald, Gilbert.

FLOWER GIRLS—Misses Leslie, Chimes, Totty
Coughdrop, Winsor.

PREMIERE DANSEUSE—Miss Sandy Grant.

THE HOME GUARDIANS ON A PENSION—Messrs.
Smith, Tintinnabulum, Middlesex, Small-
weed, Softing, Titus Oats, Wm. Brokar,
Cauliflower, Thor, Chouffleur, Long, Douglas
and Wiseman.

MEMBERS OF THE BALLET—The coming Taipans
of Shanghai.

Much was expected of the hundredth
appearance of the Amateur Dramatic Club,
and the public expectation was not dis-
appointed, for the performance at the
Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday was the
best the Club has ever given. The Theatre
was specially decorated for the occasion
with wreaths and shields and flags, a large
escutcheon over the centre of the proscenium
bearing the legend "A.D.C. Centenary.
A.D.C." Round the front of the gallery
and the dress circle were the names of
forty-two of those who in past days con-
tributed by their acting to the success of
the Club's performances. The list could
not, unfortunately, claim to be complete,

the records of the Club having been burnt
in 1877, but a large number of those pre-
sent on Wednesday night must have had
many recollections evoked of pleasant even-
ings in the past, when they read the
names of Messrs. Chalmers, Bayne, Rose,
Fearon, Stephenson, Underwood, Balfour,
Hawes, Hyde, Whittaker, Gilbert, Meller,
Hickling, Burman, Robertson, Johnston,
Halton, Beebe, Fabris, Dent, Forbes,
Savage, Wiseman, Cromartie, Gwyn,
Kidner, Merry, Oliphant, Fraser, Mollison,
Essex, Jackson, Westall, Tate, Robison,
Despard, Youd, Stronach, Alabaster,
Tobin, Margary, and Dow. Names of actors
still present in Shanghai were excluded,
but many more might have been included
had there been more room. The addi-
tional decorations were not so much strik-
ing in themselves, but they were so effec-
tively disposed as greatly to improve the
somewhat bare aspect ordinarily of the
theatre.

After "God Save the Queen" had been
played by the band under the direction of
Commander Vela, the crowded audience
standing, Mr. Smallweed came in front of
the curtain and read the prologue. It
bore the marks of somewhat hurried pre-
paration, but the sentiments it conveyed
were unimpeachable. It was as follows:—

PROLOGUE.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

Pray you don't send me in an angry
storm hence,
I'm the survivor of the first per-
formance—

There are two more who, dreading
public scorn, or
Bashful with age, are hiding in a *corner*.

We little thought when, at our open-
ing show,
Now just a score and six of years ago,
With untried powers and youthful
boldness, we

Launched our small bark, the Shang-
hai A.D.C.,

That it would live to see the century
told,

And draw to crowded benches, as of
old,

So many friends who cheered our
youthful days,

And bring their sons and daughters
now to gaze.

The task is mine to thank you for the
sight

Of all your kindly faces here to-night.

For more than half the lifetime of
Shanghai

The A.D.C.'s endeavoured to supply
Some entertainment, humble but well
meant,

To amuse in winter months the settle-
ment.

And when we have succeeded, 'tis to
you,

And not to us, the public thanks are
due.

Your kind encouragement has lent new
force,

When we have faltered on our onward
course.

You've made old favourites happy with
your cheers,

And kindly chased away the young
ones' fears;

You've overlooked our failures, and in
fact

You've sometimes made us think that
we could act!

Your ever-ready smiles have smooth-
ed our way,

And so at last we have attained to-day
The good round hundred; and in
ninety-three,

The auspicious year of Shanghai's
Jubilee,

So intertwined with Shanghai have we
grown,

We've got a little jubilee of our own!
So be Shanghai's and our success
perennial,

And all again meet at our bi-centennial!

Then the band played the very sparkling
overture specially arranged for the occasion
by Commr. Vela, and including, like a
pantomime overture at home, the airs of
the principal songs in the bur-lesque. It
was attentively listened to and warmly
applauded; and then came the burlesque
itself.

When Shakespeare described the players
as "the abstract and brief chronicles of the
time," he could not have been thinking of
his own plays, the time of most of which
was considerably before that of the poet.
But he might well say it of a burlesque
as presented by the Shanghai A.D.C.

Nothing notable occurs in Shanghai for
a year or so before the production of an
A.D.C. burlesque, that is not introduced in
the dialogue or in one of the topical songs.
Thus *The Tale of Tell Re-told* became,

like its predecessors, indeed an abstract
and brief chronicle of the time; and a very
fair history of the settlement and its pro-
minent residents could be drawn up from a
collection of the books of all the burlesques
that the A.D.C. has played in the last
six-and-twenty years. To Mr. Playfair,
H.B.M. Vice Consul, is due the writing-
up of the book and the songs, as

well as the composition of the music to
the song sung by Sarnem. Byron's book,
indeed, was generally retained; but to
Mr. Playfair entirely was due the intro-
duction of Mr. Cook with Robin Hood
and his companions, a pleasant if somewhat
incongruous addition to the old legend of
Tell, and a much needed opportunity to add

to the cast some who would otherwise have
been unable to take an active part in the
100th performance. We cannot say very
much for the humour of the book of the
burlesque, as *in orig*, or as amended, though

there were many puns in it; but the songs
were full of interest, and the actors had
filled their parts with funny things, which
kept the audience very happy. Since the
days of Aristophanes, the unexpected has
been one of the most prolific and reliable
sources of delight in burlesque; and the
unexpected strikes the house into a general
roar when the tyrant Gesler suddenly turns

to the wronged and excited Emma, and
says: "Hallo, Drummmond, thought you
were up-country!"

A look at the cast shows so many very
good burlesque actors that it was certain
that if the performance were not a great
success, it would be the fault of the book,
not of its interpreters. Mr. Wrongman is
thoroughly at home on the boards, he

delivers his lines well, wears his clothes
with an air of distinction, sings his
songs so that every word tells, and is
equally amusing when entering on a tri-
cycle, running away from the bear, tyrannising
over the Altorf villagers, or having a
round with the gloves with Tell. Withal,

he is a genial Gesler, and the stage
is always the brighter for his presence
on it, while he dances charmingly. Mr.
Umber was a conscientiously Irvingesque
Sarnem, a consistent creation that made
a capital foil to those imps of bright-
ness, Albert and Rosetta. His song,
"I'm the Man behind the Door" was not
so attractive as some of the others; but
his imitation—to music in H. J. Sharp—
of a well-known reciter's delivery of
"Kissing Cup's Race" was magnificent, and

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his imitation—to music in H. J. Sharp—
of a well-known reciter's delivery of
"Kissing Cup's Race" was magnificent, and

evoked a storm of applause. In Mr. Super and Mr. Frank the A.D.C. has its two leading burlesque actors. They were both at their best on Wednesday. The former played Tell melodramatically, but not heavily so, and with excellent clearness of enunciation, that allowed the audience to catch every word of, and every point in, his dialogue and his numerous songs. Mr. Frank had a very heavy task in Albert Chevalier, and carried it off as lightly and easily as if it had but been a quarter of what it was. His lines were full of well-made points, and his songs and dances were delightfully numerous, and very varied. "Mrs. 'Enery 'Awkins," sung in coster costume, was magnificent; so was the Vaccination Song, composed by M. Vela, each verse melting into a serenade. All Mr. Frank's dances were thoroughly enjoyed, and the skirt dance with Rosetta had to be repeated, so enthusiastically did the audience encore it. Mr. Temple had two very pretty songs to sing as Erni, "Pretty, tender, blushing rose," and "Dear little maid," and he sung both so admirably that he enchanted the audience. Mr. Perforate, Mr. Dowlish, and Mr. Egg-nogg were most useful as the other three patriots, Furst, Melchtal, and Verner, singing, conspiring, and dancing with equal zest. Miss Dora Munday was simply immense as Emma, in a very high forehead and a red-tipped nose. The house screamed with laughter at her, and indeed it was impossible not to, and when she went mad with straw in her hair, she was irresistible. Miss Polly Pembroke, who made her debut in Shanghai on Wednesday as Rosetta, captivated all hearts. A little beauty of the Minnie Palmer type, she flirted and sang and danced herself at once into the affections of all on and off the stage, and she had merely to cross the stage at the back to bring a round of applause. The Bear was an extremely well-mannered one, and was evidently of those who only dance to the genteelst of tunes.

The Robin Hood party, personally conducted by Mr. H. Morton as Mr. Thomas Cook, seemed to want a little more object, to be more intimately connected in some way with the story of the play. Mr. G. L. U. Potts as Robin Hood, Mr. T. Square as Little John, Mr. McToddy as Allan-a-Dale, Mr. Henry Hampshire as Friar Tuck, and Miss Molecule as Maid Marian, were all good in their acting, business, costume, and make-up, and sang their choruses and danced well, Maid Marian having besides a very taking topical song, "Don't you believe it." Then there was a large and well-trained chorus, male and female; while a number of the veteran actors caused a great sensation by appearing in the last act as policemen. We have already mentioned some of the songs, and we may besides draw special attention to the topical duet, sung with inimitable effectiveness by Tell and Albert, "When we are dead and gone," to Gesler's topical songs, "If you are anxious to get on" and "So you say," the latter sung to a most original air by A. S. Gatty; and to Tell's topical song, "Wink the other eye," which, though like many of the others encored two or three times, was still not long enough for the audience. Commander Vela deserves the very highest praise for the music throughout; without unceasing and ungrudging care on his part, it could never have been brought to the excellence which it did attain.

There is one great element in the success still to be mentioned, that is, the ballet, which has never been surpassed on the Shanghai boards. It was perfection. In Act II. there was a little dance of red-coated gnomes with red lanterns, in which Master Beau, as Mephistopheles, gave a *pas seul* so admirably that he had to repeat it. Good as this interlude was, it was only a foretaste of what was to come in the third act, in which the whole *corps de ballet* executed

a play of woven paces and of waving hands, with wreaths of flowers and a maypole, which was incredibly well done. An equal number of girls and boys made up the *corps de ballet*, and they certainly gave the prettiest *divertissement* ever seen on our boards. There was an additional attraction in the *pas seul* most prettily danced by an old favourite with a new name, Miss Sandy Grant. To Mr. Wynn, who arranged the ballets and incidental dances, trained the dancers, and took a large share in the general management of the performance, too much praise and thanks cannot be given.

Mr. Prophet's Swiss scenery, all new and all appropriate, was excellent, particularly the first scene in the second act, the Crags and Peaks. We have already praised the ballet master, Mr. Wynn; it remains to acknowledge a heavy indebtedness to Mr. Grove, the designer of the costumes, which were unusually brilliant and tasteful. Mr. Mann was equally useful and obliging with the lime light; Mr. Fitz James, the prompter, must have done his work well, for there were no hitches on the stage, and he was not audible in front. The whole performance went on wheels all the way, and the A.D.C. and the public, who had an exceptionally good evening's amusement—from 9 p.m. to 0.30 a.m.—are under deep obligation to the indefatigable secretary and stage manager, Mr. D. Munday. There were several calls during the evening, the prominent actors as well as Mr. Prophet, Mr. Playfair, Mr. Wynn, and Mr. Munday, being so honoured, while just as the curtain fell a well-deserved bouquet was thrown from the dress circle to the blushing Rosetta.

The burlesque is to be repeated to-morrow, and it seems almost a pity that more than one more performance cannot be given of a play that has been so elaborately prepared and so successfully produced.

Correspondence.

THE JUBILEE SCHOOL PROPOSAL.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—To continue, if you will permit me, my observations on this subject. The Committee appointed to report to the Ratepayers within three months from their recent meeting as to what ought to be done, will have to be credited with a fair amount of previous knowledge of the different requirements of public and endowed schools; of the several systems of primary, secondary, and superior education; and of the leading examples of success and failure in those departments, not only in our own quarter of the globe, but in Europe, India and America, so as to be able to give the Ratepayers means of deciding what and how much we should undertake with the financial resources destined to be applied for the object in view.

Assuming on the part of the Committee a competent acquaintance with such preliminaries of the subject, they will be in a position to supply the Ratepayers at the outset, with means of deciding at what ages, in what numbers approximately, and on what terms pupils shall be admitted to the benefits of the Institution; what grades of instructors, and how many, by means of what outlay to be obtained, and at what rates of remuneration to be employed, they are to provide for. The question of fees to be paid by pupils, if the education to be supplied is not to be entirely gratuitous, will necessarily form an important element in this branch of a very speculative undertaking, the policy of which the Ratepayers have to determine.

"The proper aim of charitable effort," as Dr. Benson, the Archbishop of Canterbury, observed the other day, "is to mitigate human suffering, not to promote the

interests of this or that religious denomination." Such being his theory, he urges the well-to-do to strengthen those older relieving organisations whose efficiency is demonstrated by long years of good work, rather than to bestow their money on experimental crudities whose acrobatic endeavours have yet to be justified by results. There would be no harm, of course, in assisting both sorts if funds were forthcoming. But experience conclusively proves that there are fixed limits to the amount annually available for charitable purposes, and it further shows that every new organisation lives at the expense of those previously established. Dr. Benson only does his duty, therefore, by reminding Church people that the necessary relieving machinery exists in every parish in the kingdom, and could at once be set in operation were funds forthcoming."—(*Graphic*, 14th January, 1893.)

But, supposing an entirely new, or almost original foundation to be contemplated, the leading questions—How many pupils, approximately, may be expected to apply for gratuitous admission? how many may be looked for who will be willing to contribute a few cents a week? and how many anything considerable?—will be important to begin with. The Committee may, perhaps, before making their report, arrive at some opinion on these points, so as to be able to advise the Ratepayers what provision should be made for admission of all, or of only a definite selection from amongst the eligible candidates; what provision should be made for separation of classes; what pupils, and of what nationalities, are to be accorded gratuitous instruction, food, shoes, and other such necessities, as in some of the schools at home; and at and up to what ages; and what racial distinctions are to be made? Are all children (within ages to be determined on, and subject, of course, to moral and physical requirements) who will pay or be paid for, to be admitted? And at what respective rates of payment? By whom are text books to be chosen? What Bible, if any, is to be used? That accepted by the majority of Christian peoples, or some other newer and curtailed one?

In the department of primary instruction the books to be chosen in secular matters, will embrace I suppose English, Chinese, Latin, French, German, arithmetic, geometry, history, natural history, geography, technology, physics, chemistry, etc. Provision for instruction in music, vocal and instrumental, drawing, and for technical, manual instruction could be readily made.

In the department of secondary education the primary text books will have to be supplied by others correspondingly advanced and on some new subjects, say, Greek, algebra, engineering, navigation, etc. Efficient teaching in this department will increase the number of paying pupils, and will, if properly conducted, be financially advantageous.

Professor Laurie, a leading authority on popular education, at the fourth annual conference of the Teachers' Guilds, attached more consequence to the "education of the mind of the pupil" than to encyclopedic knowledge. He would take measures to provide for their mental discipline; and then "teach language, the vernacular; and Latin and whatever else there might be time for; secondly a certain amount of pure mathematics; and, in subordination to both these, the elements of physical science, and industrial geography; other subjects to be determined by the predisposition and natural aptitude of the pupils, or by the consideration of utility alone."

Doubtless the Committee will before making their report visit, and investigate the systems of the existing schools in Shanghai and Hongkong, for which they will, I should suppose, be afforded opportunity by the parties in a position to aid the enquiry; and will draw conclusions from ascertained successes or failures in those institutions, calculated to assist them in

advising the ratepayers. Without this step, any report they may make will be of little value.

Dr. J. G. J. Fitch in his observations published in the Report in 1891 of the Committee of Council on Education, on the subject of free schooling as it worked in Quebec, comes to the conclusion that "the free system has a tendency, though not a necessary or invariable tendency, to become a purely secular system. Gratuitous instruction may be, as in France and the United States, exclusively secular, but it may, as in Canada, and Belgium, include religious teaching, and be given by the State in co-operation with the religious bodies." He gives us the fact, that "when the State absolutely excludes religious instruction from its purview, there grows up side by side with it as in France, and the United States, and till recently in Belgium," (where apparently, it has been abandoned after a fair trial), "a rival system outside of the public school organisation, and in part hostile to it, administered by religious bodies, maintained at their own cost and that of the parents, and receiving neither aid nor supervision from public authorities, who have gone to needless expense in pursuit of their fads. Experience," he adds, "seems to prove that in such circumstances the number of voluntary and denominational schools tends to increase, and the separation in feeling and interests between such schools and the common schools to become more marked, while the area of the State's influence over public education becomes *pro tanto* restricted." A secular system pure and simple he says besides thus exciting religious animosities "it would appear, is incapable of becoming a truly national system." Moreover these "public school" fads are always productive of useless expenditure. The "laïcisation" of French schools has cost the taxpayers already about 800 millions of francs, in the interest of place-hunters, and employés of Government.

The *School Guardian* (October 1891) says:—"Recently published statistics enable us to see the effect of the secularisation of French schools on the multiplication of private denominational schools. These figures show that in proportion as religious instruction is banished from the public schools, private denominational schools are multiplied. The same tendency has been observed in America. English statesmen and educationalists will do well to consider these facts before sanctioning proposals that would send-rise our own schools. The religious instincts of a people are not to be crushed out by an Act of Parliament," (nor, I should say, by a Municipal Budget) "nor will secular advantages suffice to induce religious parents to forego for their children the benefit of a religious education. At the same time, it is a matter for serious consideration that the rising generation of the poorest classes in France is growing up in utter ignorance, so far as the public schools are concerned, of the simplest elements of religious truth." Mr. Balfour, himself, speaking at Manchester of the voluntary in reference to the Fee grant system, for which his government were responsible, said, he "did not believe for one moment that the result would be the extinction of the voluntary system." In fact the taxes imposed for this infidel fad had everywhere entirely failed of their object.

"The fool says in his heart there is no God." Zeal for education is supposed to originate in faith; in the power to transform the thoughts and habits of individuals and peoples by the kind of training and discipline which true religion, and morality, and right views of human life demand. We see the effect of the French system; flagrant misconduct characterising the "advanced" section of the subservient people; the triumph of the ministerial swindler on the Quai d'Orsay; the less contemptible Anar-

chist trailing his ragged coat-skirts through the slums of Belleville.

The "religious difficulty" might, with goodwill on all sides, be possibly overcome in a public school, assuming that the text books and teachers are fairly selected; and no denomination has a right to claim in a mixed school the inculcation of particular views during the hours devoted to general instruction. And I do not see why a general plan of instruction should not include a knowledge of the broad principles of the leading religions of the human race; not, in any case, as represented by hostile controversialists, but fairly taken in some condensed form from the authoritative "Scriptures" of such religions. There would, of course, be some difficulty in restraining the mischievous disposition of some pupils in this department, in reference to Mohammed's night journey on El Buraq, the wonders of the Lalita Vistara, etc.; but greater difficulties have been overcome.

The members of each denomination should be afforded opportunities of learning separately from their appointed teachers, their distinctive doctrines; and efficient arrangements should be made to facilitate the celebration of their different religious rites, if any, and for attendance at public or other religious assemblies at the several churches, places of meeting, etc. Care should be taken in the general management of the school to prevent undue predominance of any party, or what in Ireland used to be called "ascendency," which is now, I suppose, dead in that "distressful country," but still surviving in sundry English Board schools in more or less feather; as, for example, in Nottingham, where the Wesleyans, Baptists, and Congregationalists are said "to pull the strings, and have School Board ordinances tuned to their particular measures."

The London School Board, itself does not present us with a good example for imitation. So much incapacity, if not something worse, has been revealed in connection with the schools that the efficiency of the Board is open to serious enquiry. Able men cannot be found to come forward to assist in directing an institution when any attempt at reform is resisted by a combination of personal and class interests, despicable in themselves and detrimental to the best interests of society.

As the Board employs some 12,000 or 13,000 persons, this *tohu-bohu* is perhaps to some extent unavoidable: and this mismanagement will, I suppose, be guarded against in our Public School to which a grant has been given and a much larger one is in contemplation on the ground that it is placed under the control of the Council. The Council is, I suppose, in one way or another informed how the works of instruction and discipline of the newly adapted school are now carried on; but they do not seem to give the Ratepayers any information on the subject. Special provision for communication of such particulars to the Ratepayers should be made before the proposed larger grant for the new foundation is affirmed; so that it may not be imputed to the Council as is said of the London School Board that "it has not found out a method of forming an adequate executive." Unless the proposed grant is to prove utterly futile, careful provision should be made to obviate any such deplorable defect in our new arrangements.

It has been well said of the special fads of Board School religion—"What the special doctrines of the School Boards are no one can tell. They are not the doctrines of the Ratepayers, they are not the doctrines of the School Board, they are not the doctrines of the individual teachers. Each one teaches as he pleases without guide, without responsibility, *velut out vitine-ses*. He may be Churchman, or Wesleyan, or Presbyterian, or Congregationalist, or Baptist, or Deist, or Materialist, he still teaches as he likes, is responsible to no one, and has no competent witnesses of his teaching."

The Board have not sufficient control over their officers. "If an officer of the Board is manifestly weak," says a correspondent of *The Times*, "or even morally culpable, his dismissal is exceedingly difficult, because he can only be dismissed by a majority of fifty-five persons. If it is proposed to dismiss him, he finds friends on the Board who plead his cause and extenuate his offences. The members of the Board are many of them intimately associated with the officers of the Board. The law of the land forbids members of a Board having commercial transactions with the Board; but it does not prevent an officer in a union of teachers, or of a trade union, or a lawyer acting for his clients, having a place on the Board which employs these clients. It does not prevent the same man being at once advocate and judge. Such a state of things of course tends to the inefficiency of the institution." The writer is the Rev. J. J. Coxhead, but of what denomination he is minister I am not aware.

Mr. J. R. Diggle, Chairman of the London School Board, in a letter to *The Daily Chronicle*, in October, 1891, in view of the then forthcoming Board election, asked the Ratepayers to support those candidates who would oppose a policy which embraces (a) the destruction of every existing non-board school; (b) the discontinuance of Bible teaching in Board schools; (c) the discontinuance of religious training in training colleges. And conscious of the insufficiency of the public school systems, he advised the Ratepayers "to encourage and to foster a system of self-supporting evening schools, which shall carry on the education of those who leave the day schools at an early age; and generally to see that in the best interests of the community the young people of London are attracted (at a time when they are subject to many temptations), to use those means of self-improvement which exist within their reach." This is valuable from a man whose position and opportunities enable him to know more than most people of the working of both classes of schools.

In Australia the official education report for 1890 illustrated the increase in the number of pupils attending the private and denominational schools since 1882. When State aid was withdrawn from the denominational schools in 1882 the number of pupils at those schools was 19,000. In 1891, according to the official statement, after all the efforts of the State to attract children to the public school, the number attending private and denominational schools was 42,000—a wonderful increase within eight years. The report told another tale, for it showed that while the average attendance at the public schools was 60 per cent. of the numbers enrolled, or 68 per cent. by the quarterly returns, the average attendance at the unaided private and religious schools was 80 per cent. It was said by some that it was only Catholics who desired to keep up the religious schools, but it would seem that there was not a single earnest Protestant in New South Wales who if asked if he were willing that religion should be an essential element in the training and education of his children, would not say, "By all means, and with all my heart."

I am, etc.,

P. DOWDALL.

17th March.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—It seems desirable that the above subject in the matter of education should be fully considered and clearly explained. Articles have appeared in your paper bearing on the formation of a public school, and one difficulty after another is brought forward as to the lines it might be supposed to take. Alike the religious and secular departments are discussed at considerable length, and illustrations are drawn

from the whole world over to confirm the writer in his particular views. These seem to be uncalled for in the circumstances in which we are placed.

Here we are a cosmopolitan community, and distinguished by our several ideas on religious topics, but it appears that all can easily be met by the plans followed out in Hongkong, India, and elsewhere.

We do not expect a jubilee school or any similar institution to be wholly under the rule or régime of the Municipal Council, but only to be assisted according to the numbers of the scholars, and, it may be, their standard of attainment. Such is the case at Hongkong, and it is found to answer well. But while allowing for one or more high schools for European boys and girls, which would yield much in the way of fees, surely we shall not rest there. Is nothing to be done for the thousands of native children under our control in the foreign settlements? There can be no difficulty in the matter of religious instruction. That would be no part of the duty of the Council or their inspector, any more than it is in Hongkong or in India. It would be left to the missionaries or others to whom the schools would properly belong, while there would be abundant matter for purely secular instruction, such as the Council would warrant and which would be of the highest value to those concerned.

We do not propose a new order of things, about which there may be a great difference of opinion in the carrying out of the provisions connected with it, only we are aiming at the establishment of a system that has long obtained in many places more or less similar to our own, and for which there is the utmost necessity here.

We shall be prepared in due time to lay before the Council a full statement of what is required and amply confirmed, we hope, by others interested in the scheme.

I am, etc.,

WM. MUIRHEAD.

20th March.

Miscellaneous.

"THE PLAN ADOPTED IN EVERY CIVILISED (?) COUNTRY."

(CONTRIBUTED.)

CONVENTIONAL ERRORS.

Judging from the speeches delivered at the Ratepayers' Meeting, there are two propensities which Shanghai would do well to guard against, namely, a proneness to copy conventional ways, and to entertain only parochial views. That there is this danger was well shown by the discussion on the L. P. O. The Chairman of the Council said, and in saying it he no doubt but voiced the opinion of the majority of Shanghai residents, "the reasonableness of having our Post Office follow the plan adopted in every civilised country is so evident to my mind that I cannot understand how there can be any good objection to it." That is to say, we cannot do better than copy the conventional plan, because if every civilised country does a particular thing in a certain way, it necessarily follows that such is the best possible way. But does this always follow? In postal matters, at all events, it most certainly does not.

DIFFERENT VIEWS.

It is only in consequence of our being accustomed to the licking and sticking of postage stamps all our days that we fail to realise the nuisance of it, or of any other absurdity to which we were to the manner born; but if this "civilised" plan of paying postage were being introduced now for the first time we would take a very different view of it. To the mind of an educated Chinaman, for instance, it appears to be as clumsy and undesirable a contrivance,

as any of the thousand and one Chinese oddities over which foreigners have marvelled. A friend of ours, one busy mail day, asked his native pundit to stamp the letters. This the gentleman cheerfully attempted to do by the original method of painfully wetting the stamps with a chop-stick. Our friend, highly amused at this proceeding, suggested that the proper plan was to lick them with his tongue, and thus save himself a lot of trouble. He replied that he did not dare, as he did not know what the medicine contained. His looks, however, were more eloquent than his words: "Foolish, filthy barbarians may addict themselves to such practices if they please, but a cultivated Chinaman — ugh!"

HIDDEN DANGERS.

Now who knows what the medicine may not contain, or how diseases may not be spread by this world-wide stamp licking mania? Perhaps Shanghai gets its small-pox from the Post Office; the thing is perfectly possible. Apart from that, however, there is little doubt but coming generations will regard the present as exceedingly rude and coarse of feeling, on account of its stamp-licking and the like; just as the present generation considers a previous one must have so been, because, before the era of knives and forks, they held their meat in their hands, and tore it with their teeth; although of the two proceedings the latter was really the more reasonable.

THE NATIVE OPINION.

To return to our cultivated native. Our friend's pundit one day, after contemplating a lot of obliterated stamps, enquired why people were allowed to treat their sovereign with such disrespect as these damaged likenesses showed. Our friend replied that it was not the people but the government which had spoiled them, and that the law required it; whereupon the pundit volunteered the information that in China no one would allow his father's likeness to be treated in that way. When there was any one the government wished to honour, they placed his picture in a temple, and burned incense and candles before it continually, which was a more becoming way of showing high respect than the foreign plan of printing pictures by the tens of thousands in order to be smudged. When one comes to think of it, it is certainly not a little curious that the sovereigns and the saviours of their country should be selected for this insidious treatment. These

OBJECTIONS

to stamp sticking may be regarded as purely sentimental, but there are others of a more practical kind with which we are all only too well acquainted. Who does not know what a pest it is to have the damp get into the drawer, and turn one's whole assortment into a sticky mess, rendering them utterly useless till an elaborate steaming process has been gone through. Or, when in order to guard against this catastrophe, we are supplied with lightly gummed stamps, to find that they cannot be persuaded to stick at all till recourse be had to the paste-pot, or to find, just as the mail is closing, that we are out of stamps — used up, mislaid or stolen — and our letters cannot go forward that day. Or, when we have got them despatched all right, to have the coolie pick the stamps off on the way to the office. Or many another bother which makes one wonder how sensible men can stand it so long. The residents of Shanghai are to be congratulated on having, in spite of the example of every civilised country, always fought shy of the abominable, adhesive postage stamp; and on securing, when the city fathers determined to impose its yoke upon them, a back door of escape in the \$10 deposit arrangement. They will, no doubt, all take advantage of this. Even humble citizens whose postal bill is not likely to amount to the above sum in a year, or even two, will deposit. The thing runs

on, and it will save them much trouble. What a paradise of a Post Office the Shanghai L. P. O. will be then! Only to think of a thousand or so of \$10 accounts to be kept in daily entries of cents and half cents, and a daily tale of thousands of stamps to be "licked and stuck," is enough to satisfy the soul of the very Napoleon of postmasters.

PAROCHIALISMS.

But there was to be no escape from the obnoxious stamp for the unfortunate outport resident. With regard to him the utterances of the Chairman of the Council were most pronounced and entirely parochial. In his opinion: "That residents in the outports should have their correspondence passed on from one port to another free of charge, or rather at the expense of the ratepayers, was a very singular contention." Again: "It is only just that the correspondents at the ports who benefit by this convenience should pay for it; and the only way they can fairly do so is to pay postage on their letters." No doubt the majority of the ratepayers said "Amen" to that. "Quite so; by all means see to it that no outsider shall receive benefit from the rates of this parish." But the above singular contention hardly represents the truth of the case as seen from an outport point of view. What is objected to is, not the having to pay for benefit received, but the having to pay twice. Nothing more is desired than that Shanghai should act on the friendly rule of: "Do as much for others as you make others do for you." It is quite possible a missive may have been very handsomely paid for, although it does not bear any outward and visible sign on its face in the shape of a postage stamp. A moment's consideration will show this.

THE OUTPORT EXPENSES.

When a Post Office accepts a letter on which the postage has been duly paid, it ought to forward and deliver the same to the addressee free of all further charge. But this the Shanghai L. P. O. never does. Before its letters can be received in the outports and interior there are many and often heavy charges to be paid on them by the residents there, such as subscriptions to local institutions to take charge and distribute them, or to native letter hongs; payments to steamer boatmen for every packet landed, or to special coolies, carriers, etc. These payments may vary in every place, but the broad fact remains that the Shanghai L. P. O. mail is forwarded and distributed at the outports and interior at the expense of the residents there, and free of all charge to it; hence it is not unreasonable to claim that it in turn should forward or distribute outport and interior mails in Shanghai also free of charge. Further, the justice of this claim is fully admitted in the case of those outports which have formally established L. P. O.'s of their own. With these Shanghai carries on intercourse on the basis of free exchange of correspondence. One would really like to know how a claim which is seen to be perfectly fair when advanced on behalf of a large outport community, becomes "a very singular contention" when put forward by a small one.

THE MORAL

of all this is that every outport community, no matter how small, should at once start its own L. P. O., and make arrangements with the Shanghai institution for the free exchange of mail matter. It cannot help agreeing to this, as the principle is fully admitted already, and to object would necessitate the appointment of an agent of its own at the port in question, or the striking of that port out of the list of places to which it forwards mails, a proceeding which its masters, the ratepayers, would hardly approve of. Possibly it was with all this in view that, in the new postal arrangements to come into force on April 1st (All Fool's Day!), the Municipal Council formally provided that

they should be authorised to make such arrangements as they deem best, with other post offices, regarding mail matter between them and the local post. By starting "other post offices" with all speed, the outpost residents can get to the weather side of the adhesive plague even yet.

A FREE POST.

Apart, however, from all questions of fair dealing, the parochial policy is a very poor one for such a place as Shanghai. In spite of the few extra tolls earned by this institution or that at the expense of its neighbours, it decidedly does not pay. In the jubilee year we shall doubtless be hearing not a little about how all the wealth and magnificence of Shanghai is the fruit of its own industry, enterprise and skill, which is of course true. But it is also true that with all its greatness, it owes its very existence to the needs of the outports and interior. These have made it, and these can make another like it elsewhere. Hence, were Shanghai wise, it would aim at making all intercourse with the outports and interior as free as possible. Every hindrance placed in the way of this is just another obstacle in the path of its own prosperity. In the case of the Woosung Bar there is no need to point out that the trade of Shanghai must suffer seriously, just in proportion as that obstruction is allowed to interfere with the freest coming and going of steamers. Everyone sees that; but every one does not see that hindrances in the way of the freest coming and going of letters act in exactly the same way. If the one brings the goods, the other brings the orders for the goods. In postal matters, the best paying step Shanghai could take, would be to get rid entirely of all the paraphernalia of stamps and deposits, and the keeping of accounts which they involve—with these would go a good share of the expense—and make the L. P. O. entirely free. By so doing she would lead the van in a reform which is bound to come as soon as "every civilised country" gets sufficiently civilised, and also fittingly celebrate her jubilee year.

THE SOURCES OF THE ANTI-FOREIGN DISTURBANCES IN CHINA.

BY THE REV. GILBERT REID, M.A.

V.

THE SOURCES AS FOUND IN THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

(2) Intimately connected with the previous point is a feature which needs a separate consideration viz., the interference of the Church of Rome in the authority of the Chinese officials. It may be granted that in special cases of injustice, a certain amount of interference is excusable, but it nevertheless may arouse the ire and resentment of both the officials and people, and result disastrously to the work of the Church. How much is allowable and how much is to be condemned requires a very careful discrimination. The mere fact that trouble ensues may not prove that evil is the cause; it may be a persecution of the right.

The general impression among the Chinese authorities, both high and low, is that the foreign priest has interfered largely in native matters by assisting the Chinese converts in litigation. The first important Edict in favour of Christianity, and one which Prince Kung sent down in 1862 and 1863 to all the provincial authorities, contained the sentence: "The foreign missionary is not an official and cannot interfere in public affairs." In the Circular presented to the Foreign Ministers by the Foreign Office in 1871, complaint was made that the foreign priests had broken the above regulation. It said: "From the information which the Prince and the Yamen have gathered, these

priests found as it were among us an undetermined number of states within the state. How, under these conditions, can we hope that a durable understanding should be established, and to prevent the governors and the governed uniting against them in common hostility?" And again: "Causes for litigation between Christians and non-Christians are under the equitable jurisdiction of the authorities; and cannot be left to the patronage of the missionaries. The latter cannot keep away from the courts Christians, prosecutors or defendants, which, in a trial, leads to delays and prejudices the parties interested." The memorial to the Throne in 1891 by the Prince and Ministers of the Foreign Office, while speaking most favourably of the work of missionaries, deems it necessary to insert this sentence: "In case of lawsuits and disputes missionaries cannot interfere, so that the people and religion ought to be able to live quietly side by side." The Edict of the Throne on the basis of this memorial does not refer so directly to this feature, and yet makes an indirect reference: "The religion of the Western countries simply admonishes people to become virtuous, and the native converts are Chinese subjects under the jurisdiction of the local officials." Likewise the larger portion of the proclamations issued for both Protestants and Romanists contain a statement either that missionaries must not interfere in official matters or that the converts are still the subjects of the Emperor. Such expressions would attract no notice among those unacquainted with the conditions implied, but to those living in China the special import is clear and significant.

In conversation with a prominent Taotai at one of the leading ports, the question of the riots naturally arose. In asking him for his advice on the matter so far as missionaries might be concerned, he replied: "I have only one idea to urge, and that is that missionaries cease to favour their converts in lawsuits with non-Christians." This was the counsel of one who is well-known as friendly, and who merely conscientiously proposed a remedy, which, as he thought, would meet most of the difficulties.

It has already been mentioned that in the disturbed state which appeared in Mongolia and Manchuria at the close of 1891, it was due in one section to a long-standing feud between the native Christians and a secret sect, the former being aided successfully by the foreign priest in bringing pressure to bear on the local authority and eliciting favourable decisions. So, in a large number of troubles which have arisen, on the one side it may be viewed as a religious persecution, and on the other it is an open and boisterous resentment of the foreign interference. To be sure in most of these instances the foreigner himself may be unmolested, but the whole collision with the Christians is tinged by anti-foreign prejudices. Such was a part of the unfortunate occurrences in 1886 in the city of Chungking in Szechuan, leading up to the death-punishment of the prominent convert, Lo. Though efforts were made both in Peking and Chentu in behalf of Mr. Lo, no favour was shown, and this largely to counteract the excessive intrusiveness of the foreign priests aided by the French Government.

The position taken by the Catholic Fathers has no doubt appeared to them both necessary and right. According to the Treaties all who profess and teach Christianity should be protected, and not molested, injured or reviled. Inevitably in new fields of evangelisation, opposition and persecution arise, and the protection of the law is sought. The Chinese authorities, however, see clearly the popular side, and are inclined to comply with the popular wish. Then, if justice is to be gained at all, some other influence is required, and this the Fathers come forward to exert, and by persistent pressure may possibly succeed.

What, then, should be the position, which both Catholic and Protestant missionaries have a right to assume, and which in no way will tend to engender animosity, irritation and violence? Without pretending to make an exhaustive enquiry, we may safely offer a few discriminating hints on the main question at issue.

In the Circular already cited of 1871, the Chinese desire is interpreted thus: "The missionaries must submit themselves, like everybody, to the authority of the local officials." "Similarly the missionaries, who teach their religion in China, ought to submit themselves to the authority of the magistrates of this country." This, however, is not the status which the law has determined for the foreign missionary. At present, and until he takes out proper papers, he is a subject of a Foreign Government, and cannot acknowledge that a Chinese local official is his superior and his ruler. When he goes into the interior of the land, he carries a passport, which guarantees protection and assistance from the Chinese military and civil authorities. This protection and assistance are secured by certain definite international obligations, and are not promised only in lieu of the foreigner becoming a subject of China.

Mr. Michie, in his "China and Christianity," proposed the following rule: "All foreigners residing or travelling in the interior under passport should be strictly forbidden by their own authorities from meddling in any dispute between Chinese, whether Christians or not." This is a step in advance on that proposed by the Foreign Office in Peking. It is allowable still that the foreign missionary meddle in his own rights, but it is stated he should not meddle in affairs of even the converts. Mr. Michie allows a slight modification, for he adds, "Such prohibition need not in the least impair the influence of private counsel in promoting goodwill." We are inclined to think that the idea, good as it is, would result disastrously, if made a law. At present Chinese officials are far from being just and trustworthy, especially in a time when popular feeling runs counter to a small and weak minority. If persecution arises, the few weak converts, relying on their own influence, would certainly be unable to resist the combined power of gentry, scholars, and populace, to say nothing of the fearless annoying bully. For the foreign missionary, who has brought the trouble on the Chinaman, to intercede in his behalf, is hardly to be termed meddlingness, but perhaps a duty.

The official advice of the British Foreign Office and the Archbishop of Canterbury—being first the suggestion of an English Consul—states, as we think, the correct and feasible attitude for missionaries to take: "That missionaries should refrain from interfering in disputes between Christian and non-Christian natives in pecuniary matters and other questions of secular business." This kind of a regulation would not prohibit the foreign missionary from using all the influence he can command to check persecution, the destruction of chapels, and outrages on native Christians. We do not say that the use of this right should always be taken; nay, patience under suffering may be the wisest policy, or friendly mediation between the parties, when conducted by competent and conciliatory natives, may be more salutary than official action. What the Chinese officials resent is some statement of a priest like this: "So and so is a Christian, and I must protect our people"—*chiao min*. The whole *onus* of protecting should be placed on the Chinese authorities, and all that the foreigner attempts is merely as a friendly mediator. If his intentions are good and his spirit conciliatory, his efforts will be appreciated and not scouted as an interference.

Already the Chinese authorities are more fully informed of the actual power or rights of the foreigner, and are inclined to reject

all interference in their own public duties. The Roman Catholic missionaries are also learning that their powers to-day are not equal to those in the past, that milder and more conciliatory methods are the demand of their work in the future.

(To be continued.)

CHINESE CHESS.

(Continued from 17th March).

§ 2.—White's variations at his Fifth Move.

First: Wh.=5. Kt. 8j to 7h (22 E—H, 24).

Black.	White.
1. C 2c to 5c	1. C 2h to 5h
2. Kt 2a,, 3c	2. Kt 2j,, 3h
3. R 1a,, 2a	3. R 1j,, 1i
4. R 2a,, 2g	4. R 1c,, 6i
5. R 2g tks P 3g	5. Kt 8j,, 7h

Omitting variations (22 E, F) in which Black plays moves marked as bad, we have here three moves of Black, viz. 6. C 8c to 8e (22 G), 6. Kt 8a to 9c (22 H) and 6. Q 4a to 5b (24). Taking the second first,

6. Kt 8a to 9c	6. P 7g to 7f
7. Q 6a,, 5b	7. Kt 7h,, 6f
8. R 3g,, 3f	8. Kt 6f,, 4e
9. P 5g,, 3e	9. B 3j,, 1h
10. R 3f tks P 7f	10. Kt 4e,, 6d
11. R 7f to 8f	11. Kt 6d,, 7b (mate).

Black's moves seem by no means his best. If he plays 6. C 8c to 8e, then

6. C 8c to 8e	6. P 7g to 7f
7. C 8e,, 3e	7. Kt 7h,, 6f
8. Kt 8a,, 7c	8. Kt 6f,, 4e
9. R 3g,, 4g	9. Kt 3h,, 2f
10. R 4g,, 4f	10. C 8h,, 8f
11. R 4f tks P 7f	11. Kt 4e,, 6d
12. R 7f,, C 8f	12. Kt 6d,, 7b (ch)
13. K 5a to 5b+	13. Kt 7b tks R 9a
14. R 8f,, 8a	14. R 6i to 6c
15. Kt 7c,, 9b	15. R 6c tks Q 6a
16. R 8a tks Kt 9a	16. R 9j to 8j
17. K 5b to 4b	17. R 8j,, 8b (ch)
18. Q 4a,, 5b	18. Kt 2f,, 4e
19. C 5c,, 7c	

The situation now is

White=K 5j; Q 4j, 6j; B 3j, 7j; R 8b, 6a; Kt 4e; C 5h; P 9g, 5g, 1g.

Black=K 4b; Q 5b; B 3a, 7a; R 9a; Kt 3c, 9b; C 3e, 7c; P 9d, 7d, 5d, 3d, 1d.

White to play and mate in three moves (easy problem).

Solution:

Black.	White.
20. C 7c to 4c	19. C 5h to 4h (ch)
21. C 4c,, 5c	20. Kt 4e tks Kt 3c (disc. ch)
	21. R 6a to 4a (mate)

Lastly if Black plays 6. Q 4a to 5b (24), then

6. Q 4a to 5b	5. Kt 8j to 7h
7. Kt 8a,, 9c	6. C 5h,, 5i
8. C 8c,, 6c	7. P 7g,, 7f
9. R 9a,, 8a	8. R 6i,, 6h
10. R 8a,, 8e	9. R 9j,, 8j
	10. P 7f,, 7e

Black may either take the Pawn by the Rook (24 A, B) or by the Pawn (24 C—F). In any case the next three moves are the same, 11. C 5i to 3i, 12. R 3g to 2g, 12. C 3i to 7i.

In the first case

11. R 8e tks P 7e	11. C 5i to 3i
12. R 3g to 2g	12. C 3i,, 7i
13. R 7e,, 3e	13. Kt 7h,, 8f
14. R 3e,, 7e	14. C 8h,, 7h

to prevent C tks B, mate.

White=Kt 5b, the exchange (Cannon for Rook) and a strong position. If Black had played 14. K 5a to 4a (24 B), White proceeds 14. C 7i tks B 7a (ch), 15. R 6h to 4h, 16. Kt 8f to 6e. The attack is neat:

14. K 5 to 4a	14. C 7i tks B 7a (ch)
15. K 4a,, 4b+	15. R 6h to 4h (ch)
16. C 5c,, 4c+	16. Kt 8f,, 6e
17. R 3e tks Kt 6e(?)	17. C 8h,, 8b (ch)
18. C 6c to 6b	18. R 8j,, 8c (!)
better Kt to 6b	
19. C 4c to 4e	19. R 8c tks Kt 3e
being threatened by Rk	
20. R 2g to 3g	20. C 7a to 7c
21. R 6e,, 8e	

White now mates in three moves.

Solution:

Black.	White.
22. R tks R +	21. R 4h tks C 4e (ch)
23. K to 4h *	22. R 3c to 3b (ch)
* If K to 4a, then Wh=C 7c to 7a, mate.	23. C 8b,, 8c, mate

In the second case

11. P 7d tks P 7e	11. C 5i to 3i
12. R 3g to 2g	12. C 3i,, 7i
13. P 7e,, 7f	13. Kt 7h,, 8f

White's next move will be C tks B, mate. Black's preventive moves all involve loss of his Rook. His best move at 13. (as given) is R 8e to 8a, when

13. R 8e to 8a	13. Kt 6h to 8f
14. R 8a,, 9a	14. C 8h,, 7h
15. K 5a,, 4a	15. C 7h tks B 7a (ch)
16. K 4a,, 4b	16. R 6b to 4h (ch)
17. Q 5b,, 4c	17. Kt 8f,, 6e
18. C 6c,, 6d	18. R 8j,, 8b (ch)
19. Q 6a,, 5b	19. C 7a,, 7c
20. K 4b,, 4a	20. R 8b tks Q 5b
21. C 6d,, 6c	21. C 7i to 4i

and mates by R tks Q 4c.

Second:—Wh.=5. Kt 8j to 9h (11 C—E).

5. R 2g tks P 3g	5. Kt 8j to 9h
6. Kt 8a to 7c	6. R 6i,, 6d (?)
	better to 6b
7. P 5d,, 5e	7. R 6d tks P 7d
8. Kt 7c,, 5d	8. C 8h to 8d
9. R 3g tks Kt 3h	9. C 8d tks Kt 5d (ch)
10. Kt 3c,, C 5d	10. R 7d,, Kt 5d
11. R 3h,, B 3j	11. R 9j to 8j
12. R 9a to 9c	12. C 5h tks P 5e
13. C 5c,, 5b	13. R 5h,, P 3d (disc. ch)
14. C 8c,, 5c (!)	

If White=14. R tks R, then Black mates in three moves (11 D).

(To be continued.)

NOTES FROM NATIVE PAPERS.

Shenpao.

GREAT FLOODS IN SHANTUNG.

The Huangho has again been behaving badly. On the 28th of the 12th moon the river broke its bank at a place in Wuming Hsien, Shantung, and wrought terrible destruction. As many as 400 villages and hamlets were submerged, with great loss of life. On the 28th ultimo two other breaches occurred on the northern bank at a place named Sonkatoo. The extent of the damage done this time is still greater than at former periods. The refugees from the inundated districts are now directing their steps to Tientsin. These occurrences at this time of year are regarded as most unusual.

THE SECRET SOCIETIES.

The three secret society members captured last year by the Nanking soldiers, have since the opening of the "seals of office" been undergoing trial. There is, however, but little to learn about the proceedings. One man has confessed to the charge of being a member of the society; the remaining two have not incriminated themselves by a like confession. They describe themselves as being country *tipaos*. The greatest vigilance is observed in guarding the prisoners.

MODERN DRILLING.

In a memorial to the Throne some time ago, the Governor of the New Dominion asked the government to supply him with a number of trained officers from the Shing-kee-ying and the Viceroy's troops, to

teach the force there the use of modern weapons and drilling. These officers are now selected, and the lot from the Shing-kee-ying are soon to start for the frontier province. Fifty men have also been selected from the viceregal troops to go there, who are to take with them 40 field guns and 2,000 rifles. As soon as the supply of arms is ready, the expedition will start.

A GAMBLER PUNISHED.

According to the Penal Code, the punishment for persons establishing gambling houses and enticing people to indulge in banishment to a distance of 3,000 li. This sentence was pronounced upon a notorious gambler, not long ago, by the Pan-Yü Hsien. The accused had also committed other offences. He had been passing himself off as a mandarin, but for this he was not punished, the severity of the other sentence being considered enough.

ROBBERIES AND GAMBLERS.

The robbers of Canton have of late been directing their attentions to fresh scenes. A gambling den in the 18th ward of the Canton city was plundered by marauders about a fortnight ago. Although a desperate attempt was made by the gamblers to recover the money, they were unsuccessful. To add to their misfortune, they nearly shot a member of the local gentry, during the fight with the fleeing band. For endangering his life the man threatened to bring the occurrence to the notice of the authorities, but by a handsome present from the gamblers he was mollified.

FORTIFICATION REPAIRING.

The stronghold on the opposite bank of the Hukow fortifications has for a long time been falling into ruin, and at present the fortress is in a deplorable condition. This fact having been brought to the notice of the high provincial authorities, officers have been sent to supervise the repairs.

IMPERIAL ENTERTAINMENT.

On the 27th ultimo, His Majesty the Emperor entertained at the Tze Kuang Ko, a large company of tributary Princes and nobles. The chief feature of the entertainment was a banquet, while some theatrical performances were also included in the programme. Among those present were the two Legates from Corea. On the 5th of this month another banquet was given, to which the members of the Grand Council and the Presidents of the various Boards were invited.

Hupao.

GOLD-WASHING IN FORMOSA.

A wealthy merchant in Canton has by the aid of an influential member of the gentry obtained permission from the Formosa Governor to conduct the gold washing business in Kelung, which has till now been carried on under the auspices of the government. The Governor has given sanction to the merchant to try for some months to see what result may be obtained.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

The Kuangsi governor, H.E. Chang, arrived at this port on Saturday by the *Kuan-lee*. By the *Kiangyü* the Chinking Taotai and the Kiangnan Admiral arrived at this port on Sunday.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

A batch of 50 young men, ranging from 16 to 17 years of age, arrived the other day from Hankow by the *Tatung*, to go to the Shanghai Cotton Cloth Mill, where they are to receive instruction and learn to manipulate the machinery. During their apprenticeship period here, each lad is to receive \$1.50 per month, and as soon as they become accomplished operatives, they will go to the Wuchang Mill, where they will get from \$7 to \$10 per month. The thirty lads who came last winter have returned home.

MINERALS NEAR NINGPO.

It is reported that the hills in a recently developed part of Nantien, a place near

Ningpo, are very rich in mineral wealth consisting of iron, copper, coal and silver.

ESCAPED PRISONERS.

Two important criminals, both incarcerated on grave charges, succeeded in escaping from the Huakuan Hsien prison in Fochow not long ago. The magistrate offered a reward of \$800 for their arrest, whilst \$200 is promised to those who will give information leading to their capture.

THE HANGCHOW BORE.

Those who were privileged to see the Hangchow bore on the night of the 25th of February, witnessed a magnificent sight. The tidal flood attained an unusual height. Unfortunately several boats were capsized through the force of the tide and over a dozen persons lost their lives.

Sinwampao.

A KOLAO HUI CAPTURE.

For a long time the various high authorities have been very anxious to arrest a Kolao Hui leader named Li Lao-yao. His capture was first ordered by the Hukuang Viceroy, who instructed the officials along the Yangtze to be on the alert for him. But no clue was discovered as to his whereabouts although a year had elapsed since the order was circulated. One day in the middle part of the Chinese January the individual was seen at Nganking in a house close to the China Merchants' hulk. The detectives and constables were soon at his side and while in the midst of a game of dominoes he was surprised and taken. The captive has been several times examined by the Nganking officials to whom he made confession with regard to his connection with the Society. On the 25th of the last moon he was sent to Hupeh under an escort of twenty soldiers.

A SECRET MEMORIAL.

Rumour has it that on the 15th instant the military governor of Ili sent a most urgent secret memorial to Peking. It is said that it was on account of some outbreak, but the exact import is not known. Whether it relates to China's relations with Russia, or a disturbance of local origin, is not known.

THE WRECK OF THE M. M. S. S. NIEMEN.

The *Times of Ceylon* gives full particulars of the wreck of the *Niemen*, near Trincomalee, and we can estimate from them how well everyone on board behaved, from the commander, Capt. Frager, down. There was such a surf on that it was impossible to land the passengers after the ship stranded, and they had a regular dinner in the saloon as usual, with the water rising in the ship all the time, and were put into the boats after dinner, and spent the night cruising round the ship. The Hoogly pilot, Mr. Wawn, who was on board, speaks in the very highest manner, as a practical seaman, of the conduct of the captain, officers, and crew, and the passengers all signed a letter to the commissaire of the *Niemen*, thanking him for all the arrangements he made for their comfort. After landing, the passengers and crew had to walk twenty-one miles to a village near Trincomalee, where boats were provided for them, and they were most kindly treated by Mr. Nevill, the government agent at Trincomalee, and the residents, until the *Lady Hazelock* called, and took them to Colombo. Captain Frager and his crew and passengers acknowledged this kindness in a formal letter. There never was a case of the loss of a ship that was less avoidable, or that was met with greater coolness, or better seamanship on the part of the crew, or more cheerfulness and patience on the part of the passengers. Only one life was lost, a lady who died of apoplexy, while being pulled ashore after the boat containing the ladies capsized in the surf.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

IN CHAMBERS.

Shanghai, 21st March.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Chief Justice.

THE OWNERS OF THE S.S. "HANGCHOW"

versus

THE OWNERS OF THE S.S. "FEIMA."

This was a limitation suit arising out of the collision in November last which resulted in the sinking of the *Feima*. In the original action the owners of the *Hangchow* were defendants and admitted their liability for damages, and in the present suit, as plaintiffs, they applied to have their liability limited to £8 per ton, in accordance with the Act.

Mr. A. P. Stokes appeared for the owners of the *Hangchow*, and Mr. W. V. Drummond for the owners of the *Feima*.

The petition and answer were as follows:—

The petition of the above-named plaintiffs sheweth as follows:—

1.—Before and at the time of the collision hereinafter mentioned the plaintiffs were the owners of the steamship *Hangchow* and some of the defendants were at such time the owners of the steamship *Feima*. And others of the defendants were the master and crew of the said steamship and the owners of the cargo laden on board of her.

2.—On or about the eighth day of November One thousand eight hundred and ninety-two the *Hangchow* whilst on a voyage from Shanghai to Newchwang came into collision with the steamship *Feima* and in consequence thereof the *Feima* shortly afterwards sank.

3.—No loss of life or personal injury was occasioned by the said collision or by the sinking of the *Feima*.

4.—The gross tonnage of the *Hangchow* without deduction on account of engine room space and after due allowance in respect of space solely occupied by and appropriated to the use of the crew, ascertained according to the provisions of the several Merchant Shipping Acts in that behalf is One thousand five hundred and two tons and 69/100 of a ton and no more.

5.—On the tenth day of November One thousand eight hundred and ninety-two an action was instituted in this Honourable Court on behalf of the owners of the steamship *Feima* and on behalf of her crew and the owners of the cargo laden on board her against the said steamship *Hangchow* for the recovery of damages occasioned by the said collision. The present plaintiffs entered an appearance as defendants in that action and admitted their liability for the damages caused by the collision in question, and on the fourteenth day of November One thousand eight hundred and ninety-two a decree was filed in the suit finding that the steamship *Hangchow* was solely to blame for the said collision, and directing that the question of the amount of damages and losses caused by the said collision be referred to the Registrar.

6.—The said collision occurred without the actual fault or privity of the above-named plaintiffs the owners of the *Hangchow* or any of them.

7.—The plaintiffs admit that the said collision and the losses and damages consequent thereon were caused by the improper navigation of the steamship *Hangchow*.

8.—The claims in respect of the loss of the said steamship *Feima* and of the goods merchandise and personal effects or other things on board her at the time of the collision exceed the aggregate amount of £8 per ton on the gross registered tonnage of the said steamship *Hangchow*.

9.—The sum of £8 per ton on the gross registered tonnage of the *Hangchow* calculated as aforesaid is £12,018.3.2 and at the rate of exchange of the day of the collision the equivalent of the said sum of £12,018.3.2 in Shanghai Taels amounts to Tls. 62,713.43. The plaintiffs are willing and hereby offer to pay into Court the said sum of Tls. 62,713.43 together with interest at the rate of seven per cent. per annum from the date of the collision until payment.

The plaintiffs therefore pray:—

1.—That it may be declared that the owners of the steamship *Hangchow* are not answerable in damages in respect of loss or damage to ship, boats, goods, merchandise and personal effects or other things to an aggregate amount exceeding £8 per ton for each ton of the gross registered tonnage of the steamship *Hangchow* calculated as aforesaid.

2.—A declaration that the amount for which the plaintiffs are liable in respect of loss or damage to ship, boats, merchandise and personal effects or other things is Tls. 62,713.43 and no more.

3.—That upon payment into Court of the sum of Tls. 62,713.43, together with interest thereon from the date of the said collision until day of payment at seven per cent. per annum, all further proceedings in the said action for damage (hereinafter referred to in the 5th paragraph of this petition) be stayed except for the purpose of taxation and payment of costs.

4.—That upon such payment as aforesaid directions may be given for ascertaining the several persons entitled to claim against the said sum in respect of the loss or damage of ship, boats, goods, merchandise, personal effects or other things and for distributing the said sums rateably among the several persons who may make out their claims, and that advertisements may be ordered to be issued for this purpose and a time fixed within which all such claimants may bring in their claims.

Such further and other relief as the nature of the case may require.

The answer of the defendants to the petition of the above-named plaintiffs:—

The defendants do not deny the right of the plaintiffs to have their liability limited to an aggregate amount not exceeding £8 per ton for each ton of gross register tonnage of the steamship *Hangchow*, and are ready and willing to consent to a decree herein for such amount as the Court may find to be just and proper.

Mr. Stokes said the petition was admitted by the answer, and the question was what the shape of the decree should be, upon the pleadings. The facts alleged in the petition were supported by the affidavit of Captain Charlton, which was filed, and to it was annexed a copy of the register showing what the tonnage of the *Hangchow* was, and also what the reduction for crew space should be. The learned advocate quoted from authorities to show that the tonnage to which his clients were entitled to limit their liability was the tonnage appearing on the ship's register which was in force at the time of the collision. Worked out upon that basis Tls. 62,713.43 represented the amount for which he submitted an order should be made.

Mr. Drummond said he had only one point to mention. He had in the answer admitted the right of the plaintiffs in this limitation suit to have the amount limited to £8 per ton on the gross tonnage of the *Hangchow*. He accepted the figures of the *Hangchow's* tonnage, but he objected to the amount of £12,018.3.2, which represented £8 per ton, being turned into taels at the rate ruling on the day of the collision. He contended that the rate prevailing when the amount was paid should be taken. If the amount had been paid on the day of the collision the rate that day would of course have been taken, but not having been paid then he submitted his clients were entitled to have it turned into taels at the rate of the day on which it was actually paid.

Mr. Stokes submitted that the correct date on which the money became payable was the date of the collision, from which time interest was calculated.

His Lordship said the Act of Parliament did not say anything about the rate of exchange; it said £8 per ton. He thought he must make an order in sterling. The same question, he believed, arose in the case of the *Glamorganshire* which was tried before him. There he was in the same difficulty, and he made an order which should be paid in gold dollars, and that was upheld on appeal. He thought it

would be better to make his order follow the wording of the Act.

Mr. Drummond said to-day's equivalent was Tls. 64,635.47.

His Lordship said that if the parties could not agree to some fixed amount he should make the order in sterling.

Mr. Stokes—I understand your Lordship is following the decision which has been upheld in the case of the *Glamorganshire*?

His Lordship—No, I am not following that, I am merely quoting that as an instance. I do not know what portion of my decision was appealed from, as I am only quoting from memory, and therefore I cannot rely upon that. But deciding it upon the arguments that have been laid before me to-day I should say distinctly that what I have to do is to limit the liability to £8 per ton. The only thing is as to the exchange, and with regard to that I say I have nothing whatever to do. The Court has nothing to do with exchange and I shall make a decree in sterling.

Mr. Drummond—Unless the equivalent is agreed.

His Lordship—Yes, I shall leave it in sterling, which by consent of the parties may be fixed at such an amount in taels.

After some further conversation it was agreed that the order should be for Tls. 64,635.47.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 20th March.
Before JAMES SCOTT Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

R. v. WESTERLAND.

C. A. Westerland second officer of the British barque *Lucia*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on Sunday night in Broadway.

Accused, in reply to His Worship, admitted the offence, but said he had been with some friends.

His Worship remarked that the accused could not blame his friends; it was his own fault. It was a matter of regret to see a second officer in such a position.

Police-Constable Young said he saw the accused get out of a ricksha and offer his watch to the coolie. He then began to use bad language, but on witness approaching he went quietly to the station.

His Worship said he should give the accused the option of a fine, and accordingly ordered him to pay \$5, and costs.

WONDER IF TODDLES KNOWS NOW.

WHEN a boy I was always fond of eating and drinking—especially of eating. What boy isn't?

I had an appetite then, and a digestion also. One day a gentleman came to dine at our house. I shall never forget that man. He had dull eyes and a purple complexion. He watched my style of eating for about five minutes, and then said to my father. "Does your boy ever suffer from dyspepsia?"

"Never heard him complain of it," replied my father. "Do you ever suffer from dyspepsia, Toddlies?"

(They called me Toddlies, but it was not my real name.)

"No, pa," I answered. "What is dyspepsia, pa?"

My purple faced friend regarded me with a look of amazement and envy, and solemnly said, "You will find out—some day."

The above incident a well-known Englishman tells about himself. Whether he has since found out what dyspepsia is, he doesn't say. Likely enough. His father's guest was well booked on the subject. That we may guarantee. That's how he got the purple skin and the dull eyes. And that's what mad him fairly turn sour with envy when he saw the boy eating like a hungry dog, and with as little fear of the consequences. Ah, dear, dear! if we elderly men and women could eat now as we could when our chins came just up to the top of the

table! But we can't, that's certain. Why not? Well, here's one good woman tells why she couldn't, and she was so much in earnest in the tale that she went before the Mayor of Leeds and had it put into a form which carries weight and conviction with it. Thus we have it:—

[COPY.]

"I, Caroline Nixon (wife of Ezra Nixon, wholesale clog manufacturer), of 4, St. Agnes Mount, Stoney Rock Lane, and 85, Upper Accommodation Road, Leeds, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:—

"Up to November, 1885, I was always strong and hearty. At this time I fell into a low, weak state. I was tired, languid, and low-spirited. I had a bad taste in the mouth and expectorated a deal of phlegm. My appetite was poor, and after eating I had great pain at the chest and between the shoulders, and so bad was this that I was afraid to eat. I got no sleep at night, and for weeks would lie awake most of the night, and was worse tired in the morning than when I went to bed. I was quite worn out, and got so weak that I could scarcely get about the house. As it was, I had to constantly lie down on the couch. Having a large family to look after, I was compelled to be up and doing, otherwise I should have been in bed. I had often heard people speak of Indigestion and Dyspepsia, but did not think it was so bad as I found it. In this miserable condition I continued week after week, only to find myself weaker and weaker. I saw a doctor in York Road, who gave me medicine, but I got no better. Getting anxious, I went to a clever, experienced doctor, but after being under his treatment some time I gave up taking his medicine, for I got worse instead of better. Both doctors said I was suffering from Indigestion, but they were unable to do anything for me. I now lost all faith in physic, and looked on my case as incurable, when one day a book was left at the house telling of a medicine called Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and I read of several cases resembling mine having been cured by it. I sent to Mr. Cole, chemist, in Marsh Lane, and got a bottle. After taking the syrup three days I felt relief, my appetite returned and my food digested, and before I had taken one large bottle I was cured, and have since kept in good health. After my recovery one of my daughters was taken bad with rheumatism, so I gave her some Seigel's Syrup and she soon got well. If any of my family ails anything a dose or two of the Syrup soon sets them right, and for the past four or five years we have needed no doctor owing to taking the medicine. I consider the Seigel's Syrup has saved my life, and I have recommended it to many, and if publishing this statement others may come to be benefited, I give permission to the proprietors to use it as they think proper.

"And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true. By virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declaration Act, 1835 (Will. IV., c. 62).

(Signed) CAROLINE NIXON.

"Declared before me at Leeds in the County of York by the said Caroline Nixon, this 6th day of October, 1891.

"(Signed) ALF. COOKE,
"Mayor of Leeds."

Mrs. Nixon says: "I have often heard people speak of indigestion and dyspepsia, but did not think it was so bad as I found it." There's just where the trouble is. Healthy folks simply can't imagine what a concentrated horror, what a death-in-life, this disease is. If they could they would take every precaution against it. Even Toddlies would have eaten fewer tarts, puddings, and cakes. For indigestion and dyspepsia, lightly as we speak of it in our ignorance, actually destroys more human beings than war, pestilence, and famine combined, and the only trustworthy remedy, so far as we yet know is the one mentioned and used by Mrs. Nixon

(1) 17, 24, & 31 mr 73

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

BIRTH.

At 5, Chaoufoong Road, on the 23rd inst., the wife of GEORGE MONSRY, of a son,

MARRIAGE.

At Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on 16th March, by the Venerable Archdeacon Moule, WILLIAM THOMAS LOUIS WAY, of Tientsin, eldest son of Captain Way, of Taku, to ELIZABETH ALICE, (Lily), eldest daughter of Captain J. B. ROSE, of Mulgrave, Leytonstone, England.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Kobe Maru*, for Nagasaki — Mr. and Mrs. T. Majima, Rev. Tuckerson, Dr. Abercrombie and Mr. Ginsburg. For Shimotsukata — Messrs. Ikeda, Tanimichi and Matsumoto. For Kobe — Miss Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Wray, Messrs. Kasuga, T. L. Pickerton, Y. Fukushima and G. Morita. For Yokohama — Miss Eldridge, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Koy Yuen, Messrs. C. W. Baird, M. B. Castle, Tsge Jin and Yik Boo. For Paris — Mr. L. C. Parets. For London — Mr. A. Burnan. For Portland — Mr. Donald Mcley.

Per str. *Canton*, for Hongkong — Misses (2) Murray.

Per str. *Kwanglee*, for Hongkong — Captain Neeson. For Canton — Mr. Galetti.

Per str. *Chungking*, for Tientsin — Messrs. E. Gipperich and Robinson.

Per str. *Taiwan*, for Amoy — Messrs. Forke and Grunenwald.

Per str. *Tungchow*, for Tientsin — Capt. and Mrs. de Fleurac, Mr. Chichmareff. For Chiefoo — Miss Howard.

Per str. *Haeing*, for Amoy — Mr. J. Langley.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Sachsen*, from Bremen, etc. — Mrs. Jamieson and family, Misses Ch. Hoff, F. Haunah and Lawrence Simmonson, Messrs. James Sharp Barclay, Ch. Lund, W. B. Scoones, H. Mandl, White Couper, T. F. Fife, G. Jamieson, Karins, Edmund Kohn Speyer, P. Warburg, H. Nolting, P. Kohn Speyer and C. Graki.

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Per str. *Choyssang*, from Hongkong — Mr. Benson.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Wind.	Force.	Hygrometer at 9 A.M.		Thermometer in shade.		Initials.
	9 A.M.	Maximum.			Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
Mar 17	29.98	50.0	E.	3	60.0	49.0	59.0	55.0	N.
18	29.93	50.0	N.	3	50.0	49.0	55.0	49.0	O.
19	30.18	49.0	N.	3	46.0	44.0	57.0	44.0	O.
20	30.14	48.0	S.	3	48.0	45.0	55.0	44.0	C.
21	30.10	50.0	S.E.	2	50.0	49.0	53.0	49.0	O.
22	30.12	48.0	N.	2	48.0	45.0	55.0	44.0	O.
24	30.05	49.0	W.	3	49.0	46.5	53.5	45.0	O.

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

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13th April, 1887

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Reserve Fund\$ 3,600,000
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COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 23rd March, 1893.

PIECE GOODS.—Seldom, or never in fact, have Importers experienced such utter stagnation in this trade, during the month of March, as now exists. It is, after all, only the natural consequence of the growing system of Indenting; the Natives anticipate their requirements for the Spring a few months ahead, and, unless Importers are in a position to sell at or near the cost of the goods so coming forward, it stands to reason that demand will be slack. Usually circumstances have so prevailed that with the bulk of the importations the Natives have found holders here, at this time of the year, in a position to supply them at as favorable, if not cheaper rates than before, and they have bought to make an average; this year, however, it is altogether the other way, for what goods are held by Importers, and the quantity cannot be very great, cost considerably over the prices at which the indents were made the latter part of last year, and therefore until they are cleared off it is not likely that buying can be very brisk. Moreover the season is remarkably late and trade in the country has hardly commenced yet, it being only within the last few days that the Shansi merchants had arrived in TIENSIN. Business has been very slow there and unfortunately some of the dealers have been forced to realise at even lower rates than quoted last week, giving the market a weak appearance. As supplies continued to be sent forward very gradually the position should soon improve and meanwhile holders must exercise their patience, which, however, is certainly not an easy matter with exchange dropping away as it is. The first steamers for NEWCHWANG are clearing to-morrow, but they are only taking about 4,500 packages, including YARN, the supply of AMERICAN makes being particularly small. This has been rather a disappointment to Importers, who had hoped at least that clearances would have shown some improvement, but arrivals still keep much ahead of deliveries, as can be seen by a reference to the figures on the 4th page.

The bulk of the business done this week has been at the usual auctions, where fairly steady prices have prevailed for Cotton goods, White Shirtings perhaps showing up the most favourably. WOOLLENS are weak, Camlets especially so, the quantity offered continuing very excessive.

The MANCHESTER market is reported to be dull with a dragging demand, which is not surprising considering the fall in sterling rates. There is no further news concerning the termination of the strike, but it is thought that when it is finished the demand for Cotton will put the price up.

Grey Shirtings.—*S. 4-lbs.*—There is not a single sale reported this week, but it is rumoured that a small lot has been taken at about £1.70, particulars being withheld. Prices are fairly steady at auction, more especially for the lower grades.

Light Weights.—A resale of 1,000 pieces 6-lbs *Blue Anchor (Taivo)* is reported at £0.92. None of this weight have been offered at auction, but the few lots of 7-lbs have sold at firm prices.

Heavy Weights.—The only private transaction mentioned is 1,500 pieces 10-lbs. *Red Horse* at £2.12½, auction prices being slightly in favour of the buyers.

12-lbs. 36 inch.—No movement either privately or at auction.

White Shirtings.—The demand is very good, but supplies appear light and private holders firm, so that the auctions are well patronised and firm prices maintained. There is some enquiry for *White Irishes* and sales have taken place, the only one mentioned, however, is 500 pieces *Red Stork*, a very low quality, at £1.85.

T-Cloths.—The sale is published of 500 pieces *Blue Buffalo* at £1.35. Prices are slightly easier at auction for all except the commonest. *Indian.*—1,500 pieces *Red Dragon* 6-lbs. are reported at £1.09.

Jeans.—No sales are reported. *American* makes are arriving more freely than for some time past.

Drills.—*English.*—There has been some enquiry for the good makes of these and sales to extent of about 4,500 pieces have been effected—namely:—*Wheelbarrow* at £1.52, *Elephant and Snake* at £2.56, *Crocodile and Beaver* at £2.95.

American.—Nothing doing. It is reported that *Pepperells* have dropped to £3.03 in *TRIENSTIN*.

Sheetings.—*English.*—A small lot of *Double Indian Head* is published at £2.60. The poor demand for these makes is quite disappointing.

American.—The buyers are holding off and give very discouraging reports of the Northern market, no doubt with an object it being rumoured that *Indian Head* are selling there at £2.95! Holders here are very confident and do not try to force sales.

Fancy Goods.—Early in the interval, and before the drop in sterling rates, a small indent business was put through, mostly in *Dyed* goods, but there is nothing doing in *Prints*. *Velvets* are wanted at previous rates, but holders are firm and asking higher prices. *Turkey-Reds* are quiet.

Cotton Yarn.—*English.*—No movement reported in these Spinnings.

Indian.—A fair amount of business has been done during the interval at slightly weaker prices, the drop being caused by the action of speculators re-selling, being disappointed at the very poor demand there is for the Northern markets. Prices may be quoted a quarter to half a tael lower for the leading counts, though the business done does not show this decline in every instance. Sales amount to 3,178 bales as follows.

No. 6s., 50 bales.—*Sradeshi* £51½ and *Leopold* £51½.

No. 8s., 41 bales.—*Sradeshi* £52½ and *Leopold* £52.60.

No. 10s., 710 bales.—*Indo-China* £52½/52½, *Anglo Indian*, Mule, *Jamshed*, Mule, *Empress* and *M. Petit* £53, *New Empress* £54, *Imperial* and *James Greaves* £54½, *Framjee Petit* £54½/54½, *Connaught* £54½, and *Howard and Bullough* £55½.

No. 16s., 720 bales.—*Sasoon's Lion* £57½, *Jubilee*, Ring, *Bombay National* and *Sradeshi* £58½, *Western India* £59, *Anglo-India*, Mule £59½, *Currimbhoy*, *Bombay Cotton* and *E. D. Sassoon's* new chop £59½, and *Framjee Petit* £60.

No. 20s., 1,595 bales.—*Union* £60, *Vithaldas Copolads* £60/60½, *Jubilee*, Mule, *China Mill*, *Britannia*, Mule, *Indo-China* and *Jadovjee*, Mule £60½, *Wadia*, *Queen*, *Victoria*, Ring, *Jadovjee*, Ring, *Jamshed*, Ring and *Lord Reay* £60½, *Star of India*, Mule £60½/60½, *Standard Mill* £60½, *Imperial* and *Anglo-Indian*, Ring £61, *Tea Carrier* £61½/61½ and *Howard and Bullough* £61½.

The s.s. *Maria Teresa* brought about 950 bales.

Woollens.—There is nothing very satisfactory to report regarding the market for these goods, auction prices being lower almost all through. The recovery that was noticed last week in *Camlets* at the *Yuen-fong* auction was not of very long duration for prices went back again at the sale this morning, and the chops at the other Auctions were weak. *Long Ells* are slightly easier for the lighter weights. A small lot of 9-lbs., assorted colours, have been indented for at £4.90. *Lastings* are only a fraction lower at auction, and privately a fair line of *J.M. No. 12* have been sold at £9.30, as before. *Spanish Stripes* are a trifle lower for most chops, but the best qualities are keeping fairly steady, *H.H. Gentian* and *Scarlet* selling very well. Nothing is reported in the heavier goods.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's Report of 24th March:—The quietness of this market, which I noted last week, still continues as the main feature. Chinese are holding off, and will probably make no decided move until they receive further reports from the North, although a hopeful tone seems to prevail, and an inquiring spirit is manifested. Indent business has shown an improvement, but the sudden drop in silver during the week has somewhat shaken confidence and tended to temporarily stop business.

LEAD.—This market continues dull. Deliveries are fair, re-exports piculs 7,136.26 against piculs 5,900 imports up to date. There are no sales to report, and the quotations remains nominally £3.87½ for L.B., and *Enthoven* £3.80.

RAILROAD IRON.—There is nothing doing under this heading, Chinese are offering 10 to 15 cands. below cost. Imports up to date are piculs 11,800, against re-exports of piculs 10,951.74.

IRON WIRE.—400 casks, No. 13/25, have been booked, "to arrive," at £4.35.

OLD IRON.—So far as the actual volume of business is concerned, trade in this line has undergone very little change, the distributive movement having been of very small proportions. Imports up to date according to Customs Statistics were about 16,000 piculs Horse-shoes, and 35,000 piculs of other descriptions, against re-exports of 9,000 piculs Horse-shoes, and 11,000 piculs sundry kinds. Sales reported are:—50 tons *Liverpool Horse-shoes*, "spot," at £1.48; 40 tons, *London* at £1.42½, and 100 tons *Bale Hoops* at £1.40.

TINPLATES AND STEEL.—Remain without change.

SPELTER.—The market for W. H. has undergone no special change, but hard is in no demand, and purchasers of cargo "to arrive" are anxious to clear even at a loss.

STRAITS TIN.—Is selling in a moderate way at quotations.

COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.—Prices for Japan Copper have strengthened, but Sheathing remains dull and neglected. **NICKEL.**—200 cases *Cube* have been contracted for during the week, but particulars as to prices have not transpired.

TIN BASINS.—A parcel of 50 cases small sizes has been cleared at £24.

SNUFF BOXES are in active request, and new patterns have been booked to a fair extent.

BERLIN WOOL.—Further contracts of 10 oz. have been made at about previous rates.

MATCHES.—100 cases "Birdcage" chop, *Vienna*, are reported done at £17.25. In other kinds there has been no business.

SOAP.—The demand has shown no improvement in *London* and *Liverpool*, and only moderate sales are reported. For *Fancy Soaps* contracts have been made to a considerable extent.

WINDOW GLASS.—A sale of 1,000 cases is reported at £2.34, c.i.f.

NEEDLES.—The market has developed a brisk demand for ordinary qualities, and there is a strong buoyant feeling that indicates the possibility of higher prices. Sales transpired include 80 cases, No. 0, at £62.50 for 500 *Mille*.

DYES AND COLOURS.—There are no sales of any importance on record. At auction 25 cases *Emerald Green*, each 100 catty packages, fetched £20.25, and 1,000 tins *Ponceau* ea. 8 oz., 14 cands. per tins, while privately 25 cases *Emerald Green*, usual packages, were sold at £20.50, and 1,000 tins, ½ lb. *Scarlet*, *Joss* chop, at 19½ cands.

BUTTONS.—At auction 25 cases No. 7, deep cut, were sold, with all faults, at £28.75. No business of importance has been done privately.

UMBRELLAS.—Nothing doing.

STEARIN CANDLES.—Remain firm at quotations.

HANDKERCHIEFS AND TOWELS.—The former continue in a fair request at better prices, while *Towels* are lower.

LLAMA BRAID.—No. 45/37 is in good demand at 35 to 35½ cands.

Kerosene Oil.—Import as per Customs Statistics for this month are 213,000 cases against 140,900 cases *Re-Export*. Natives are re-selling "spot," *Devoes*, at £1.16½ to £1.17, and *Russian* at £1.14. *March-April* sailing has been done at £1.10½ to £1.11. Arrivals from *New York* are *Guernsey* s.s. with 95,000 cases, and *Energia* s.s. with 68,838 cases.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—*Malwa*, (new) £382/390, (old) £390/415; *Patna*, (new) £436; *Benares*, (new) £440.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's Circular of 23rd March :—London quotations to 21st current are 13/6 for Blue Elephants with a steady market.

RAW SILK.—Transactions during the week have been very moderate. The qualities most wanted for European consumption are almost exhausted, and no additions of consequence can be looked for this season.

TSATLEES.—About 200 bales have found buyers—prices for 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ and better grades have advanced, whilst No. 5 and common are weak at a decline on last mail's rates.

HANGCHOW TSATLEES.—A trifling business only at quotations.

TAYSAAAMS.—About 150 bales have found buyers at unchanged prices.

YELLOW SILKS.—Demand for Asiatic markets continues brisk, and settlements aggregate 200 bales. Prices are firm for all classes. Arrivals as per Customs Returns, 16th to 22nd March, 325 bales White and 180 bales Yellow and Wild Silks.

RE-REELS AND FILATURES.—No transactions reported.

WILD SILKS.—A small contract for Gold Dragon Tussah Raw at \$152½ is reported.

WASTE SILKS.—Tussah Cocoons have been settled at ₹44, an advance of 20% during the month, and Light Tussah Waste at ₹31.

PONGEES.—Some small lots of 24 oz. Shantung goods have been settled at \$3.15.

Purchases include :—TSATLEES.—Red Pagoda 3 at ¥447½, Buffalo 3 at ¥447½, Dancing Bear 1 at ¥447½, Mountain 3 at ¥425, 4 at ¥400, Gold Kiling at ¥360, Siebing Quong-fong at ¥360, Silver Double Elephant at ¥357½, Stork Chay-ling at ¥322½. HANCHOW TSATLEES.—Lanhock at ¥317½. TAYSAM.—G. Kahing M. at ¥290, 9/12 Moss Green Stork I at ¥295, III at 262½, Double Butterfly No. I at ¥285, II at ¥255. SKEINS.—Lueky Twins 3 at ¥255, Blue Monster at ¥235, Lie Skeins I and 2 at ¥220 and 212½. YELLOW SILK.—Tungloh at ¥270, Fooyung at ¥202½ a 205, Wongchow at 190 a 191½, Szechong at ¥178½ a 180. WILD SILK.—Gold Dragon Chop at ¥152½.

	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.
Settlements for this mail + ... about	500	1,000	800	1,000	500	1,250 bales.
" for the season+ "	69,000	59,200	55,600	64,300	52,000	52,000 "
Stock \$.....	3,500	8,800	5,900	7,300	1,800	3,250 "
Total Arrivals\$.....	72,500	68,000	61,500	71,600	53,800	55,250 "

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this Market and forward contracts. § Including old Silk.

	<i>* England.</i>	<i>* France, &c.</i>	<i>Total Europe.</i>	<i>America.</i>	<i>India & Egypt.</i>	<i>Coast & Straits.</i>	<i>Grand Total.</i>
Export White Silk	2,911	43,473	46,384	5,654	3,100	1,381	56,519 bales.
" Yellow "	...	4,907	...	...	2,399	278	7,584 "
" Wild "	117	3,180	3,297	176	1	93	3,567 "
	3,028	51,560	54,588	5,830	5,500	1,752	67,670 "
Against in 1891-92.....	7,025	39,189	46,214	5,246	5,102	1,446	58,008 "
" 1890-91.....	6,184	39,134	45,318	4,522	3,799	1,250	54,889 "
Export Waste Silk	7,468	26,969	34,437	88	...	306	34,831 piculs
" Cocoons	465	2,862	3,327	542	...	49	3,918 "

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 1,099 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

also 1,000 pairs Old and Young	Wading to London.
" 493 "	" " " " Continent.

1,592

Tea.—Messrs. Welch Lewis Co. report:—**BLACK TEA.**—No business. Stock 209 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.

GREEN TEA.—Pingsuey 390 4-chests have been shipped on native account. New York advices of 17th February report that some overland shipments of Pingsuey have been shut out by the Government Inspector and there will have to be an arbitration. It is a matter of regret that such "trash" should be shipped as Tea, and it would help to make the trade more healthy if it were condemned. We drew attention to the foulness of some of the parcels on offer early in the year.

EXPORT OF TEA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	<i>Black.</i>	<i>Green.</i>
Total to date, 1893	23,817,649 lbs.	6,372,736 lbs.
" 1892	26,776,544 lbs.	5,957,049 lbs.
Decrease	2,958,895 lbs.	.....
Increase .....	.....	415,687 lbs.

EXPORT OF TEA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	<i>Black.</i>	<i>Green.</i>
Total to date, 1893.....	7,231,671 lbs.	15,930,584 lbs.
„ 1892.....	4,774,036 lbs.	15,793,513 lbs.
Increase.....	2,457,635 lbs.	137,071 lbs.

EXPORT OF TEA TO BOMBAY.

Total to date, 1893.....	4,608,269 lbs.*
" 1892.....	4,119,274 lbs.
Increase.....	488,995 lbs.

* Including the cargo of the *Bokhara* 250,616 lbs. lost.

Exchange.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 3s. 8½d. a ¼d. Bank Bills, demand, 3s. 8½d. a ¼d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 3s. 9d. a ¼d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 3s. 9½d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 9½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 4.67; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 4.77; 6 months' sight, 4.80. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 3.86. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 107. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 72½ per cent. discount; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 71½. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers 73½. Private Bills, 15 days' sight, 73. On Bombay and Calcutta—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 307. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 307½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 tunc, \$259.50. Silver Bars, \$111.00. Mexican dollars, \$72.6. Carolus dollars, \$89.00. Copper Cash, 1,410. Chinese Interest, mace 0.80. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 37½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morriss & Fergusson's Circular.)

Mar.	Bar Silver £ oz in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GER- MANY.	N. YK.	HONG- KONG.	YOKO- HAMA.	INDIA.
		T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.	4 m/s. Priv.	Docty 4 m/s.		T/T	Rupees. T/T	
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest	Highest	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.					
18th.....	38 ^a ₁ ⁸	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ⁵ ₈	4.79/4.82	4.80/4.83	3.87	106 ¹ ₂	72 ¹ ₂	73 ¹ ₂	307
20th.....	38 ^a ₁ ⁸	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.9	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ⁵ ₈	4.77/4.80	4.79/4.82	3.86	106 ¹ ₂	72 ¹ ₂	73 ¹ ₂	307
21st.....	37 ³ ₄	3.8 ¹ ₂	3.8 ¹ ₂	3.8 ¹ ₂	3.8 ¹ ₂	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ⁵ ₈	3.9	3.9 ¹ ₂	4.72/4.75	4.75/4.78	3.83	107 ¹ ₂	72 ¹ ₂	73 ¹ ₂	307
22nd.....	37 ³ ₄	3.8	3.8 ¹ ₂	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.9	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ⁵ ₈	4.71/4.74	4.72/4.75	3.80	107 ¹ ₂	72 ¹ ₂	73 ¹ ₂	307 ¹ ₂
23rd.....	37 ⁷ ₈	3.8	3.8 ¹ ₂	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.8 ⁵ ₈	3.9	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9	3.9 ¹ ₂	4.72/4.75	4.73/4.75	3.81	107 ¹ ₂	72 ¹ ₂	73 ¹ ₂	307 ¹ ₂
24th.....	37 ³ ₄	3.8	3.8 ¹ ₂	3.9	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ⁵ ₈	3.9 ¹ ₂	3.9 ¹ ₂	4.77/4.80	4.77/4.80	3.86	107	72 ¹ ₂	73 ¹ ₂	307 ¹ ₂

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 22nd March, 1893, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 60 to 65, both numbers inclusive.

RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.

GOODS.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Corea.	Local.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings †	3,595		11,845	4,570	3,620	53,725	890	12,805		1,140						8,600	
T-Cloths, 32-in.	1,255		3,125	375	930	1,460	400	555		2,485		50				2,700	
„ Indian, 32 & 36-in.	70						800	3,750								240	
„ 36-in.	350		30		220	120										2,100	
White Shirtings	744		2,310	350	1,492	10,020	150	7,243								3,800	150
Drills, English & Dutch			210			105	30	1,560		135						240	
„ American	45			30		415		4,350								180	
Jeans, English & Dutch			20			100	100	1,600								260	
„ American																100	
Sheetings, English	40		1,450	710	250	830	530	2,060								380	
„ Indian								400								100	
„ American	60							14,680								260	
Dyed Shirtings			1,800	80		100		1,250								140	
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W.			30		50	40	200									80	
Chintzes			110	60	50	400										150	
Printed T-Cloths	300		1,290	540	496	1,260	300	296		124						350	
Printed Twills			84	264	120	260										280	
Turkey Red Shirtings	50		1,247	560	275	1,635		500		100		80				200	
Velvets	24		30			72										60	
Velveteens						54										40	
Handkerchiefs			600	1,520	600	1,050		200								2,700	
Muslins			402	102		100		200								200	302
Lenos & Balzarines					50											100	
Cotton Yarn, Indian	282		360	75	486	1,629	375	2,016			63					150	
„ English	3		12			216										30	
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	18		162	48	36	78	6	96		24						60	
„ Cotton			72		12	40		96								50	
Medium and Broad Cloths	18		6	12	6	98		12								60	
Camlets	70		50	70	100	460		40		130	10					90	
Long Ells			80	120	40	405		40								70	
Lastings	50		100	30	170	480		120		120						140	
Italian Cloth	30		60	30	30	210	60	30		30						110	
Cotton Lastings & Italians	540		748	310	650	1,688	232	1,357		30						450	
Plain & Figured Orleans			40					40								60	
Cotton Flannels	6															420	
Lead in Pigs	335		40	81	65	772		1,180									
Iron—Nail Rod	693		1,344	269	177	798	1,176	2,016			407						
Kerosine Oil, American	9,900		6,850	4,400	4,416	20,200	16,300	6,850									100
„ Russian	600		900					16,650									

TOTAL DELIVERIES.

TOTAL IMPORTS.

STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, ON 31ST DEC., 1892.

GOODS.	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1893.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan., 1893.	Against last year to same term.	* At date Estimated.	Against 16th March, 1892.
Grey Shirtings †	100,790	909,999	1,322,655	272,262	1,391,074	1,540,610	1,839,960	1,552,079
T-Cloths, 32-in.	13,335	141,860	261,934	62,209	231,015	316,606	289,050	268,585
„ Indian, 32 & 36-in.	4,860	58,044	62,890	7,430	39,390	88,019	81,706	89,534
„ 36-in.	2,820	34,850	467,081	8,782	50,341	467,840	69,347	632,957
White Shirtings	26,349	302,231	32,644	92,087	408,740	42,578	468,064	100,050
Drills, English & Dutch	2,220	37,640	67,054	12,417	98,621	138,300	80,626	167,181
„ American	5,020	36,680	36,040	45,495	112,305	45,060	90,700	75,538
Jeans, English & Dutch	2,080	32,625	290	5,320	23,415	8,890	23,630	.....
„ American	100	9,110	49,100	3,000	12,000	178,209	4,771	253,110
Sheetings, English	6,250	116,708	3,210	49,100	209,344	238,665	226,115	296,540
„ Indian	500	11,059	9,980	3,210	8,850	52,317	20,160	33,361
„ American	15,000	73,160	10,769	9,980	134,350	8,745	9,604	9,979
Dyed Shirtings	3,370	32,413	10,769	25,727	50,341	17,931	21,492	28,432
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W.	400	8,245	1,105	7,292	8,745	143,170	263,545	203,266
Chintzes	770	10,044	610	12,652	35,817	44,870	84,026	39,549
Printed T-Cloths	4,956	97,124	39,042	149,199	143,170	207,411	12,181	384,758
Printed Twills	1,008	28,459	6,685	35,817	44,870	207,411	12,181	4,112
Turkey Red Shirtings	4,647	79,201	115,255	5,459	29,779	112,482	207,411	384,758
Velvets	186	4,500	6,330	2,303	9,021	7,622	12,181	4,112
Velveteens	94	1,068	1,832	277	1,429	4,016	2,235	5,498
Handkerchiefs	6,670	77,627	95,507	12,080	86,279	108,927	177,781	150,159
Muslins	1,306	16,508	39,479	21,486	98,245	107,437	147,646	122,886
Lenos & Balzarines	150	2,422	12,868	5,281	31,554	50,012	52,634	74,879
Cotton Yarn, Indian	5,436	56,229	83,806	9,699	80,146	116,318	80,155	109,280
„ English	261	3,762	7,593	527	1,214	4,132	449	15,318
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	528	6,604	5,987	2,160	9,322	9,060	7,878	6,705
„ Cotton	270	2,585	5,767	1,440	4,475	8,156	4,537	7,034
Medium and Broad Cloths	212	2,576	3,691	1,111	7,352	6,904	18,306	13,879
Camlets	1,020	12,835	15,222	3,421	19,251	12,649	13,486	14,817
Long Ells	755	12,000	13,544	2,940	14,905	16,040	11,868	13,656
Lastings	1,210	20,740	20,684	10,394	47,479	28,448	41,124	23,763
Italian Cloth	590	10,276	12,439	2,751	11,479	14,406	9,767	25,370
Cotton Lastings & Italians	6,005	119,421	125,246	35,762	190,324	163,458	262,065	210,982
Plain & Figured Orleans	140	1,489	5,360	89	200	3,966	3,448	7,776
Cotton Flannels	426	9,059	4,584	89	22,253	6,561	35,244	40,886
Lead in Pigs	2,473	17,785	12,660	4,202	31,934	26,048	34,691	20,184
Iron—Nail Rod	6,880	24,719	29,803	3,781	22,636	36,054	70,526	159,008
Kerosine Oil, American	69,016	344,327	208,798	88,716	185,596	191,912	329,465	559,345
„ Russian	18,150	41,450	83,180	.....	109,468	38,758	39,736	143,709

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per Natal, Ching Wo, Glenogle, Malwa, Energia, Sachsen, Bombay, Oanfa, Maria Teresa and Guernsey.

Import Cargoes declared during interval: Moyune, Neckar, Telamon, Ozus, Macduff, Myrmidon, Carthage, Strathleven, and in Bond ex Ching Wo.

‡ From the daily returns from the Wharves.

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 24th March, 1893.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been placed at 108% prem. We hear that the London quotation is £35 ex dividend. Bank of China.—A large business has been done at £1.50 to 0.80. The market closes firm, with buyers at £0.85.

SHIPPING.—Shanghai Tug-Boat Co.—Shares have changed hands at £95 cum dividend. Indo-Chinas have changed hands, and are wanted, at £20. Taku Tug and Lighter shares were placed at T. £55, ex. dividend.

MARINE INSURANCE.—North-Chinas have been sold at £112, and a fair business has been done in Yangtszes at £70. This Company will pay the shareholders a return of \$40 on Capital, in a short time.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Hongkongs have been sold at \$227½. They are offering at that rate. Chinas have been sold to a limited extent at \$83, and are obtainable at the same rate. Straits Fire Insurance Co.—Shares have been sold, and are wanted at \$17, cum dividend.

WHARVES.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been placed at £270.

CARGO BOATS.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares have been sold at £200.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Perak Sugar Cultivation 15% Debentures have changed hands at par.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATION.	
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When paid or due.	Closing.	Tails.
<i>Banks.</i>										
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. Co	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$3,600,000.00	\$71,171.30	31 Dec 92	*£1	1 Mar 93	108% pm.	189.80
Bank of China, Jap. & Straits, Ltd	199,875	£10	£14	.....	£2,002.13	31 Dec 92	+0.49	4 Mar 92	.....	1.50
Do. Founders'	1,250	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	†£35.23	14 Feb 91	£20.0.0	105.79
National Bank of China, Ltd. A	19,970	£10	£8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. B	29,953	£10	£8	.....	\$20,572.82	31 Dec 92	None.	.....	\$39.50	28.84
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$150.00	109.50
<i>Shipping.</i>										
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	£100	£100	£3,000	£1,045.67	31 Dec 91	*£2	10 Oct 92	.....	95.00
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	£40,000.00	£2,437.11	31 Dec 91	+2½%	7 July 92	.....	20.00
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£150	£150	.....	£1,050.34	31 Dec 92	*20%	1 Mar 92	.....	150.00
Ch. Mutual S. N. Co. pref. shares	20,000	£10	£10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£7.0.0	37.33
Do. ord. do.	10,000	£10	£5	£85,000.00	£2,384.17	31 Dec 90	*3%	5 Nov 92	£1.0.0	5.26
Do. do. do.	10,000	£10	£3½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£0.10.0	2.67
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	T. £50	T. £50	£24,000.00	£20,054.71	31 Dec 91	*5%	14 Mar 93	T. £55.00	57.36
H'kong, C'ton & M'cao S.B. Co.	80,000	£20	£20	\$619,000.00	\$18,714.87	31 Dec 92	*5%	30 Jan 93	\$29.25	21.35
<i>Docks.</i>										
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£18,500.00	£67.92	31 Dec 92	*£12	6 Jan 93	.....	420.00
Byrd & Co., Ltd., Founders'.....	200	£100	£100	£41,000.00	£5,302.57	.....	†£12	28 June 92	.....	300.60
Byrd & Co., Ltd.	7,800	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	140.00
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd.	7,500	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	105.00
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>										
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$750,000.00	\$237,185.68	30 April 92	+£4.50	19 Sept 92	\$55.00	40.15
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£200	£25	£205,336.80	£405,979.17	30 June 92	£14.73	26 April 92	.....	112.00
Union In. Society of Canton, Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$25	\$842,000.00	\$422,392.37	30 June 92	+£7	12 Oct 92	\$83.00	60.59
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n, Ltd.	6,948	\$100	\$100	\$340,000.00	\$64,555.65	31 Dec 91	+£86%	10 Mar 90	.....	70.00
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$730,000.00	\$73,349.32	31 Dec 91	85	13 Jan 93	\$100.00	73.00
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.	30,000	\$100	\$20	\$35,000.00	\$364,722.32	31 Dec 91	+5%	15 July 92	\$14.25	10.40
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>										
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,060,000.00	\$301,495.70	31 Dec 92	+£17.50	16 Mar 93	\$227.50	166.07
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$825,000.00	\$183,787.54	31 Dec 92	+£7	7 Mar 93	\$83.00	60.59
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$127,500.00	\$22,845.03	31 Dec 92	+5%	23 Jan 93	\$17.00	12.41
Singapore Ins. Co., Ltd. in Liq.	29,176	\$100	\$20	\$11,875.91	\$126,852.17	31 Dec 91	+£0.70	26 April 90	\$12.50	9.12
<i>Wharves.</i>										
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	£94,089.75	£4,302.19	31 Dec 92	*£11.00	9 Mar 93	.....	270.00
Birt's Wharf H. C. & W. C. Co.	2,100	£50	£50	£10,000.00	.....	31 Oct 91	*3½%	28 Nov 92	.....	37.50
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ltd	20,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$14,409.37	31 Dec 92	*\$1.50	9 Feb 93	\$43.00	31.39
<i>Mining.</i>										
Sheridan Con. M. & M. Co., Ltd.	20,000	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10.00
Smuggler Union Mining Co.	50,000	G. \$100	G. \$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	nominal.
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd.	115,000	\$1	\$0.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.15	0.11
Do do.	25,000	\$1	\$1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$1.00	0.73
New Imuris Mines, Ltd.	200,000	£1	£0.17.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.10	0.07
Belmont Consolidated Min. Co.	3,500	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.10	0.07
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>										
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£40,397.90	£2,643.16	31 Dec 92	*7%	14 Mar 93	.....	200.00
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	£11,000.00	£1,930.32	31 Dec 92	*5%	2 Mar 93	.....	75.00
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>										
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£100,000.00	£7,670.22	31 Dec 91	*6%	12 Jan 93	.....	209.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	7,200	£20	£20	£25,723.08	£218.45	31 Dec 92	*3%	28 July 92	.....	162.50
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ltd	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£7,810.42	30 June 92	None.	.....	.....	11.00
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ltd	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£4,692.42	29 Feb 92	†£2	15 May 90	.....	6.00
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	1,500	\$100	\$100	\$10,345.85	\$3,061.51	31 Dec 91	*£55	10 Mar 92	\$120.00	87.60
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	477	£100	£100	.....	£790.28	31 Dec 91	†£7	15 Mar 92	.....	95.00
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	20,000	£50	£30	£28,263.17	£301.51	31 Dec 92	*31%	2 Mar 93	.....	25.50
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	\$552.12	31 Dec 91	*\$5	20 April 92	\$100.00	73.00
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd	1,800	£50	£50	£1,500.00	£2,913.28	31 Dec 91	*£1.50	3 Nov 92	.....	46.50
Major Brothers, Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£623.53	14 Oct 92	*£1.50	9 Dec 92	.....	45.00
Y'hama Engin. & Iron Work, Ltd.	1,300	\$100	\$100	\$10,225.99	.....	30 Nov 91	*3%	30 Nov 91	\$85.00	62.05
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	650	\$100	\$100	\$7,311.93	.....	31 Dec 92	None.	.....	\$200.00	146.00
Do. do. new issue	650	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$130.00	94.90
Shanghai-Lankat Tob. Co., Ltd.	1,590	£100	£80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65.00
Do. Founders'	10	£100	£70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	525.00
L'Hôtel des Colonies, Ltd.	500	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	*3%	26 April 92	.....	50.00
Shanghai Ice Co.	1,500	£50	£30	.....	.....	.....	*3%	26 April 92	.....	25.00
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.	360	£100	£100	£250.00	.....	31 Oct 92	+94%	10 Jan 93	.....	110.50
Do.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$175,000	\$15,538.47	31 Dec 91	7%	9 Nov 92	\$15.50	11.32

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1883	£45,000.00	£25,000.00	£100	7 %	Dec. & June	nominal.
Do. 1884	£15,000.00	£15,000.00	£100	7 %	Do.	Do.
Do. 1885	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	£100	7 %	Do.	Do.
Do. 1888	£70,000.00	£70,000.00	£100	6 %	Do.	Do.
Do. 1890	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£100	6 %	Do.	Do.
Do. 1891	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£100	5½ %	Do.	£108.00
China Merchants' S. N. Co. Debentures.	£300,000	£85,000	£100	7 %	Quarterly	£102 (a) nominal.
Lycium Theatre Debentures	£17,000.00	£17,000.00	£25	*4 %	2 Sept. '92	£11.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E	S. £767,200.00	£716,800.00	£250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	(a) £285.00
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. Debentures.	£250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	6 %	May & Nov.	(a) £100.00
Do. Do.	£105,200.00	£105,200.00	£100	5½ %	June & Dec.	(a) £100.00

* For half year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. § A deficit. || Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

J. P. BISSET & Co.